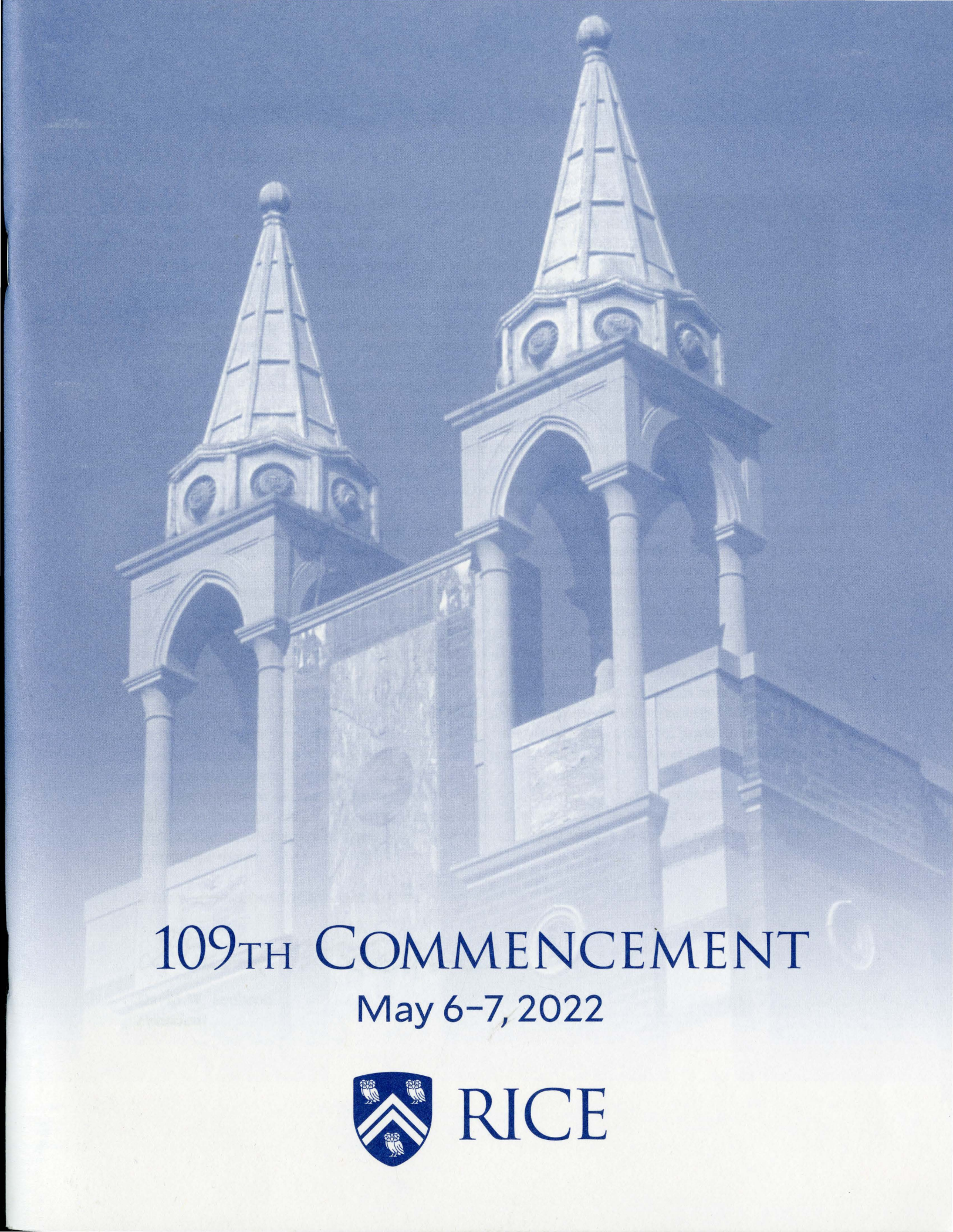
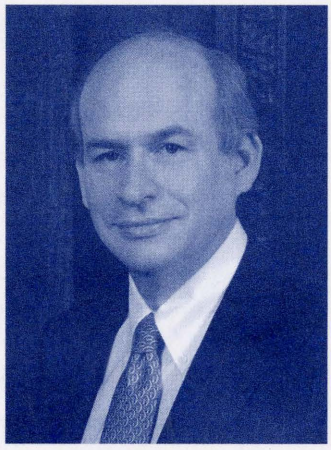


109TH COMMENCEMENT

May 6–7, 2022

RICE

Welcome From the President



Welcome to Rice University's 109th Commencement ceremony! Today, the entire Rice community comes together to celebrate the extraordinary achievements of the graduating Class of 2022. These students include those receiving bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. The faculty and staff of Rice are privileged to have played a part in educating such outstanding students during the unprecedented circumstances of recent years.

These students, and the university community of which they have been a vital part, faced challenges like few other students before them. Yet they still excelled and, like the many generations of students who preceded them, the Rice graduates of 2022 will go on to achieve great things and make notable contributions to our world. The members of the Class of 2022 have persisted through an extended time — up to over two years — of an educational environment constrained by the pandemic. They will be engaged citizens in a wide variety of endeavors.

Our graduate students receiving their degrees emerge well prepared for their professions and for making intellectual and creative contributions and discoveries. Our undergraduate students who receive their degrees will symbolically complete their journey at Rice by exiting through the same Sallyport that they entered when they matriculated as new students. All of our students have grown as scholars and responsible citizens. We are confident that the education they have received and the challenges they have faced during their time at Rice have prepared them well for the opportunities that lie ahead.

We extend an especially warm welcome to family members and friends who are joining our students on this special day. Many of you have traveled great distances and are navigating uncertain times to celebrate the achievements of your child, spouse, partner, parent, relative or friend. We know your presence means so much to them, and we hope that the day is deeply meaningful for you as well. We wish to thank you for the support and encouragement that you have given to them.

The presence of our trustees, faculty, staff and alumni at Commencement demonstrates the pride that our entire university has in these distinguished new graduates. We wish them well in the next chapter of their lives, and we hope that they will return many times to visit their alma mater.

With warm wishes for a bright future,

David W. Leebron

David W. Leebron
President

Commencement Program

Rice Stadium | Saturday, May 7, 2022 | 8:30 a.m.

President David W. Leebron, *presiding*

Musical Introduction

Concert Band
Charles Throckmorton, *Conductor*

University Delegation

Monique Shankle, *Association of Rice Alumni Representative*
Alexandra Kieffer, *Faculty Senate Representative*
Anne Santos, *Staff Council Representative*
Joshua Moore, *Graduate Student Association Representative*
Gabrielle Franklin, *Undergraduate Student Association Representative*

Fanfare

Concert Band
Charles Throckmorton, *Conductor*

Academic Procession

Welcome

David W. Leebron, *President*

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Robert T. Ladd

Introduction of Speakers

David W. Leebron, *President*

Speakers

Kendall Vining, *Past President, Undergraduate Student Association*
Mario Escobar, *Past President, Graduate Student Association*
David W. Leebron, *President*

Commencement Address

Sonia Nazario

Conferring of Doctoral Degrees

David W. Leebron, *President*
Seiichi P.T. Matsuda, *Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies*

Conferring of Advanced Degrees

David W. Leebron, *President*
Seiichi P.T. Matsuda, *Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies*

Conferring of Bachelor's Degrees

Bridget Gorman, *Dean of Undergraduates*
Magisters of the Residential Colleges
David W. Leebron, *President*

Concluding Remarks

David W. Leebron, *President*

Alma Mater

"Rice's Honor"
Khady Gueye, *Soloist*

All for Rice's Honor, we will fight on.
We will be fighting when this day is done.
And when the dawn comes breaking,
We'll be fighting on, Rice, for the Gray and Blue.
We will be loyal, to Rice be true.

Recessional

Concert Band
Charles Throckmorton, *Conductor*

The audience is requested to remain in place until the recessional is finished. *For guest information, refer to Page 48.*

2022 Degree Recipients

The recipients whose names are listed hereafter completed their degrees in August 2021, December 2021 or are scheduled to complete in May 2022. The information about degrees printed in this program is not official. Inquiries regarding graduates of the university should be directed to the registrar.

Doctor of Philosophy

Mahdiyeh Abbasi
Dissertation in Electrical and Computer Engineering: Photothermoelectric response and hot carrier tunneling in gold nanowires
Director: Douglas Natelson

Blake William Actkinson
Dissertation in Civil and Environmental Engineering: Developing and Improving Statistical Methods to Analyze Air Pollution Measurements
Director: Robert Griffin

Wala Ali Algozeeb
Dissertation in Chemistry: Converting Plastic Waste into Graphene and Materials for Carbon Dioxide Capture
Director: James M. Tour

Mahya Amani Hamedani
Dissertation in Economics: Essays in Empirical Industrial Organization and Financial Economics
Director: Xun Tang

Di Ao
Dissertation in Mechanical Engineering: Improving Personalization of Neuromusculoskeletal Models via EMG-driven Model Calibration
Director: Benjamin J. Fregly

Maria Paula Aroca Vidal
Dissertation in Political Science: Neither Hierarchy nor Chaos: The Emergence of Legislative Organization in the Colombian Congress
Director: Keith Hamm

Sadjad Arzash
Dissertation in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering: Mechanical phase transitions in biopolymer networks
Director: Frederick C. MacKintosh

Yuki Atsusaka
Dissertation in Political Science: Political Methodologies for Electoral Engineering and Minority Representation
Director: Randolph T. Stevenson

Reha Avsar
Dissertation in Mechanical Engineering: Spacecraft Parachute Fluid Mechanics Computation Based on Space-Time Isogeometric Analysis With T-Splines
Director: Tayfun E. Tezduyar

Ata Babazadeh-Naseri
Dissertation in Mechanical Engineering: Computational Framework for Designing Patient-specific, 3D-printable, and Stress-shielding Resistant Pelvic Implants
Co-Director: John E. Akin; Co-Director: C. Fred Higgs III

Phillip Austin Baker
Dissertation in Biosciences: Investigation of Enteric Neural Crest Cell Differentiation, Proliferation Dynamics and Hirschsrpung Disease Manifestation During Zebrafish Enteric Nervous System Development
Director: Rosa Uribe

Nidish Narayanaa Balaji
Dissertation in Mechanical Engineering: Dissipative Dynamics of Bolted Joints
Director: Matthew R.W. Brake

Morgan Goodwin Barnes
Dissertation in Materials Science and NanoEngineering: Designing Anisotropic Functional Polymers: From Shape-Shifting Elastomers to 2-Dimensional Films
Director: Rafael Verduzco

Andrew Battaglia
Dissertation in English: Oddly Modern Times: Alternate-Temporality Clocks and Other Peculiar Modes of Access in Anglophone and German Literary Modernism
Director: Judith Roof

Nicole Erin Behnke
Dissertation in Chemistry: New Strategies for the Synthesis of Amines, Ethers and Small Strained Rings
Director: Laszlo Kurti

Gregory Berglund
Dissertation in Bioengineering: Development of Principles for the Design and Additive Manufacturing of Optical Systems for Biological and Biomedical Applications
Director: Tomasz Tkaczyk

Manav Bhati
Dissertation in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering: Multiscale Modeling of Electrochemical Interfaces
Director: Thomas P. Senftle

Rajarshi Bhowal
Dissertation in Economics: Reallocating Bonus Payments Through Competition to Improve Medicare Advantage Plan Quality: A Dynamic Game Approach
Director: Jeremy Fox

Sara Biesiadny
Dissertation in Statistics: Statistical Analysis of Clonal Hematopoiesis: A Stochastic Modeling Approach
Director: Marek Kimmel

Isabel Bilotta
Dissertation in Psychological Sciences: Inclusive Leadership and Follower Job Performance: Evaluating the Relative Influence of Workgroup Versus Social Identity Group Agreement on Employee Outcomes
Director: Eden King

Sean Michael Bittner
Dissertation in Bioengineering: Fabrication of Three-Dimensional Printed Gradient Scaffolds for Heterogeneous Tissue
Director: Antonios Mikos

Daniel Bolger
Dissertation in Sociology: Spatial and Cultural Dimensions of Social Service Access in Majority Black Neighborhoods
Director: Elaine Howard Ecklund

Kathryn Renee Brink
Dissertation in Systems, Synthetic, and Physical Biology: High-Throughput Discovery of Input Stimuli of Bacterial Two-Component Systems
Director: Jeffrey Tabor

Ryan Linn Brown
Dissertation in Psychological Sciences: A Lifespan Approach to Psychological and Physical Health: Attachment and Health in Older Adulthood
Director: Christopher Fagundes

Madeline Paige Burns
Dissertation in Biosciences: Understanding How Divergence in Diet Breadth and the Degree of Environmental Variability Contribute to Individual Differences in Decision-Making and Learning
Director: Julia Barbara Saltz

Matthew Wade Butcher
Dissertation in Physics and Astronomy: Ground States and Phase Transitions in Frustrated Spin Models: Investigations Using Classical and Quantum Monte Carlo
Director: Andriy Nevidomskyy

Ryan John Butcher
Dissertation in Bioengineering: Continuous monitoring of signal transduction in living bacteria
Director: Jeffrey J. Tabor

Andres Manuel Carrizosa
Dissertation in Political Science: Legislative Instability and Party Power in Paraguay
Director: Mark P. Jones

Ya-Ting Chang
Dissertation in Physics and Astronomy: Collisional loss of one-dimensional fermions near a p-wave Feshbach resonance
Director: Randall G. Hulet

Kyle David Chapkin
Dissertation in Applied Physics: Ultrafast Transient Absorption Measurements on Plasmonic and Plasmon-Mediated Systems
Director: Naomi J. Halas

Tong Chen
Dissertation in Physics and Astronomy: Neutron scattering studies on FeSe, Ce2Zr207, BaNi2(As04)2, and Ni2Mo308
Director: Pengcheng Dai

Xu Chen
Dissertation in Electrical and Computer Engineering: TeamDNA: Automatic Measures of Effective Teamwork Processes from Unconstrained Team Meeting Recordings
Director: Ashutosh Sabharwal

Xun Chen
Dissertation in Chemistry: Exploring the mechanism of functional binding & disease-related self-assembly of biomolecules using energy landscape theory
Director: Peter Wolynes

Yikai Chen
Dissertation in Mathematics: Mathematical Results for Michell Trusses
Director: Robert Hardt

Yuda Chen
Dissertation in Chemistry: Creation of Cells with Endogenous Noncanonical Amino Acids for Genetic Incorporation
Director: Han Xiao

Zhuo Chen
Dissertation in Systems, Synthetic, and Physical Biology: Modeling of gene regulatory networks controlling cell-fate decisions in Bacillus subtilis
Director: Oleg Igoshin

Janelle Clark
Dissertation in Mechanical Engineering: Individualized Haptics: On relating Psychophysics, Contact Mechanics, and Physiology in Indenting and Skin Stretch Haptic Cues
Director: Marcia O'Malley

Mattheau Steven Comerford
Dissertation in Biosciences: Evolutionary and Ecological Responses to the Anthropocene; The Red-Shouldered Soapberry Bug in a Rapidly Changing World
Director: Scott Egan

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY *continued*

Ian Christopher Cone
Dissertation in Applied Physics: Biophysically Plausible Learning in the Brain via Eligibility Traces: Cortical Sequences, Hippocampal Place Cells, and Dopaminergic Reward Prediction Error
Co-Director: Harel Shoubal; Co-Director: Xaq Pitkow

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Director: Laszlo Kurti

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Dissertation in Applied Physics: A series of advance scoring functions in ranking protein structures
Director: Jianpeng Ma

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Director: Moramay Lopez-Alonso

Rami Masri
Dissertation in Computational and Applied Mathematics: Analysis of discontinuous Galerkin schemes for flow and transport problems
Director: Beatrice Riviere

Lauren A. McCarthy
Dissertation in Chemistry: Investigating the Polarization-Dependent Scattering of Coupled Plasmonic Nanoantennas in Confined Electromagnetic Waves
Director: Stephan Link

Caitlin Victoria McCowan
Dissertation in Electrical and Computer Engineering: Targeted Diagnostic Imaging and Image Post-processing of Colorectal Cancer using Hyperpolarized MRI
Director: Caleb Kemere

Emily McHugh
Dissertation in Chemistry: Carbon Nanozymes and their Derivatives for Treatment of Oxidative Stress-Related Diseases and Dysfunctions
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Dissertation in Philosophy: Conscious Conceptual Thought
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Tharun Kumar Reddy Medini
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Shail Maharshi Mehta
Dissertation in Applied Physics: Fabricating Biomaterials with Tunable Mechanical Properties Mimicking Those of Biological Tissue
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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY *continued*

Wenpei Miao
Dissertation in Earth, Environmental and Planetary Sciences: Constraining crustal velocity and anisotropic structures of basins and margins with surface wave and receiver function data
Director: Fenglin Niu

David Thomas Mildebrath
Dissertation in Computational and Applied Mathematics: Optimal Outcome-Based Regulation in Lung Transplantation: Modeling and Computation
Director: Andrew Schaefer

Kristen Amanda Miller
Dissertation in Materials Science and NanoEngineering: Effect of Versatile Structural Design on Properties and Applications of Two-Dimensional Conjugated Microporous Polymer Thin Films
Director: Pulickel M. Ajayan

Ali Asghar Mojibpour
Dissertation in Electrical and Computer Engineering: Electroluminescence from Single-Chirality Single-Wall Carbon Nanotube films
Director: Junichiro Kono

Lucas Moreira Sassi
Dissertation in Materials Science and NanoEngineering: Towards Low Temperature Growth of Tungsten Diselenide and Direct Device Fabrication via Chemical Vapor Deposition
Director: Pulickel M. Ajayan

Kelly Joanne Neill
Dissertation in Economics: Competition in Australia's Natural Gas Markets
Director: Peter Hartley

Mohamed Nazim Nemer
Dissertation in Mechanical Engineering: Wettability Alteration Monitoring and Implications during Pore-scale Multiphase Flow in Porous Media
Director: Laura Schaefer

Linnea Clare Ng
Dissertation in Psychological Sciences: Improving Belonging Through a Brief Intervention
Director: Michelle Hebl

Wai San Ng
Dissertation in Philosophy: Semantic Change: What, How, and So What
Director: Richard Grandy

Jared Oestman
Dissertation in Political Science: Providing Peace: The Role of Extrinsic and Intrinsic Motivations in Shaping States' Voluntary Commitments to UN Peace Operations
Director: Brett Ashley Leeds

Ved Ojha
Dissertation in Materials Science and NanoEngineering: Materials and Electromechanical Engineering of a Haptic System
Director: Pulickel Ajayan

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Director: Charles Siewert

Sushma Sri Pamulapati
Dissertation in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering: Carbon Nanotube Fiber Microelectrode Arrays for Neural Recording and Simulation Applications
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Dissertation in Bioengineering: Design and Evaluation of Vascularizing Scaffolds Toward Multi-compartment Engineered Tissues
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Dissertation in Biosciences: Targeting Mitochondria Metabolisms for Novel AML Therapy Development
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Dissertation in Electrical and Computer Engineering: High density time-of-flight diffuse optical tomography
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Dissertation in Computer Science: Hardware-Software Co-Design for Optimizing MPI Programs in Data Center Network
Director: T. S. Eugene Ng

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Co-Director: Rafael Verduzco; Co-Director: Michael S. Wong

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Dissertation in Mathematics: On a conjecture of Chinburg-Reid-Stover
Director: Alan Reid

Seyed M. Sajadi
Dissertation in Materials Science and NanoEngineering: Direct 3D Printing Complex Materials
Director: Pulickel M. Ajayan

Devashish Salpekar
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Yannick Fannang Dwatie
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Gregory Michael Earnest
Marilou Mariel Econg-Segrest
Cole Douglass Edwards
Kendall Sohl Ellig
David Mathew Ellis Jr
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Feng Fan
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Charles Edward Fetter III
Percy Cole Fisher
Travis Evan Fisk
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Leonardo Flores
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Tyler Maxwell Freed
Francisco Alberto Gallegos
Kristin Galligan
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Jingxi Gao
Ya Gao
Victoria Rose Garcia
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Ting Ting Geng
Theandra Aaliyah Gibbons
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Luke Jonathan Gilman
Kishor Raghunath Girase
Robert Augusto Godinez
Candace Gooding
Takeya T. Green
Bryan William Greenfield
Philip Brian Grove
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Akanksha Gupta
Jennifer Faye Gutierrez
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Joseph Hahm
Aster T. Haileyesus
Audrey Fisher Halbrook
Marshall William Hall
Adam Paul Hamilton
William Ritter Hamilton
Saif Ul Haq
Aaron Haque
Brett Alan Harmeling
AliAkbar Mustafa Hassonjee
Eric Carson Haverkamp
Blake Andrew Hayes
Alvin Haynes
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Juan Carlo Hernandez
Kirsten Dorsey Hernandez
David Blair Hicks
Shannon A. Hill
Victoria Hills
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Gretchen Jean Hopper
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Lin Huang
Zherui Huang
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Amanbek Jamanbekov
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Stephen Edward Jimenez
Ahmad Hassan Jingo
Amogh Jogalekar
Brandon Andra Johnson
Brandon Deandre Johnson
Eric Bradley Johnson
Jasmine Johnson
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Nicholas Chapman Jones
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Arun Abraham Kaipuzha
Rahil Kaka
Andrew Kane
Yu-Han Kao
Garrett Thomas Kastl
Andrew Franklin Kenner
Jessica Kent
Warren Westbrook Keull
Asiyah Khan
Siddharth Kharbanda
Abhishek Khattar
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Sarah Kirmani
Andrew Burns Klonower
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Stephanie Marie Kot
Charles Frederick Kuebler
Bala Ram Kumar
Raakhee Biswas Kumar
Ruo-Hsin Rebecca Kuo
Oscar Alexander Kutch
John Warner Ladd
Rizwan Lakhani
Heidi Christine Landen-Greene
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David Lane
Jante Cheri Langan
Sandipan Arafat Laskar
Christopher Chunbon Lau
Quy Anh Le
William Stewart Leach
Grant Thomas Leathers
Ming-Hua Lee
Justin Ryan Lerma
Patrick MacLinden Light
Caroline Diane Lillja
Sophie Yu-Wen Lin
David Yeh Liu
Amy Nicole Lockwood
Alexander Stephen Lok
Sandeep Loka

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION *continued*

Owen Bradley Loock
Bryan Lopez
Courtlynn Janan Love
Leslie Lynn Lugrin
Daniel Shouyi Luo I
Tu Jun Ma
Marc Maalouf
Ashleigh Jo Macaluso
Darrin Dudley Madriz Gonzalez
Imran Shahid Majeed
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William Atur Manashi
Laura Halperin Manley
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Cedric Manzoleloua Ndongala
Kylie Ann Marinzel
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Jonathan Mast
Brian George Mathews
Oommen Mathews
Marina Matselinskaya
Philipp Maximov
Truitt Guy Maxwell
Adam Lee McBride
Allan Christopher McBride
Ryan Patrick McCarver
Jarred Daniel McGhee
Kelly Sheridan McGrath
Alison Kreft McKell
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Holt Harrison McNair
Chintan S. Mehta
Stephen Janos Meier
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Kristen Julia Meyer
Jordan Miles
Johnathan Ferrante Miller
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Tyler Famorca Moehlman
Patrick Martin Moffitt
Avinash Mohapatra
Charles Cornelius Mooz
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Kelli Lynn Muhl
Frank-Nelson Muhande Musemate
Aniruddh Anand Nair
Lauren Mai Nakazawa
Gaurav Deepak Nayak
Richard Charles Nebel III
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Saipravallika Nettyam
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Steven Nguyen
Nirupma
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Olaseni Johnson Olaleye
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Kevin Ong
Kehinde Babajide Opatola
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Samuel Angelo Pannunzio
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Sharan Snehal Parikh
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Maral Piltan
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Amr Radwan
Kornel Gyorgy Rady
Iqbal Mahmud Rahman
Eduardo Ramirez Salinas
Rogelio Ramirez Jr
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Kurt Mitchell Reece
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William Reed
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May Shandia
Vera Louise Shaw
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Raisha T. Smith
Trevor Haywood Smith
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Alexander Mark Stodola
William Alexis Stolz
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Sergio Suarez Fernandez
Lee I. Summerlin
Bo Sun
Abdul Azeem Syed
Hao Thich Ta
Christina I. Tamayo
Krystal Mariko Tanaka
Nigel Anthony Tarr

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Mia Cox Teed
Alfonso Terrazas Gonzalez
Jimmy Theoc
Ashtyn Cole Thompson
Tian Tian
Joe Adam Tijerina
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Keila Enitt Torres
Daniel Willard Tower
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Jonas Traphoner
Peter Quoc Trinh
David Patrick Tschoepe
Krupali Upadhyaya
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Sudha Verma
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Nelson William Waltrip
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Luo Wang
Ran Wang
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Chandler Warren
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Parker McClain White
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Chongqiao Xiong
Xing Xu
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Naren Yellai
Konrad Pawel Zarnowski
Yudi Zhang
Mark A. Zorrilla Jr

Master of Arts in Global Affairs

Mathilde Louise Marie Beauplat-Saada
Lauren Haley Buchanan
Amanda Castillo
Michael Collins
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Aida A. Eltorie
Sean Donovan Fiorella
Hannah Marie Guyton
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Shiwei Li
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Taylor Hayes Lunsford
Venkata Kaushik Nunna
Gabriela Angelo de Oliveira
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Ka Yeung Pi
Madison L. Prause
Eliana Ruiz Carrero
Christopher Juan Refik Sayan
Meredith Paige Seaweard
Janae LaChelle Winfield
Jovaun Adrian Woolford

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Abdusamed Gelle Artan
Emanuel Castro
Dustin Droll
Shuaizhi Gao
Mitchell Ray Holcomb
Dajin Jeong
Xinyi Kong
Trang Thuy Phuong Le
Siyu Li
Papa Babacar Ngom
Syed Hasan Tarique

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Sangeeth Arun Jeevan
Nessa Kim
Hira Qarni

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Alexander Thomson Carrell
Barrett Doke
Taylor Alexandria Farmilette
Christina M. Flores
Virginia Kate Kleiber
Paula Martin

Master of Liberal Studies

Andrea Renee Bolt
John R. Cheney
Susan Chennisi
Cherie Hoepfl
Bette Lehmberg
Robert Row
Ebony Sowells
Troy Thompson

Diploma in Liberal Studies

William Cowan
Barbara Rodriguez Redeker

Bachelor of Architecture

Andrew James John Clifton
Phoebe Anne Cox
Nell El Souri
Alida del Carmen Fabrega
Emma Ruth Foster
Anna Yen Fritz
Sebastian Paul Grande
Shreekumar Babasaheb Kale
Xinyu Li
Ziwei Li
Ze-Kai Liew
Shih-Yung Su
Henry Francis Taibi
Stephanie Ann Tyler
Beril Uzmen
Beichen Xie
Zhaorui Xiong
Si Yue Yu
Amy Zhang
Haonan Peter Zhang

Bachelor of Arts

Riley Reid Abercrombie
Leenah Abojaib
Izel Luna Aceves
Elimelek Caleb Acuna
Jennifer Adams
Miles Logan Adams
Dagem Shemeles Adera
Meheret Shemeles Adera
Sukriti Agarwal
Jared Bradford Aiman
Cameron Kim Akioka
Zainabou Abei Tifuh Akum
Venus Alemanji
Robert M. Alexander
Roy Lee Allen
Emmaline Steen Alme
Colton Bradley Alstatt
Melissa C. Alter
Adriana Maria Amaris
Devin Jaxsen Amodio
Regina Erin Andrews
Abin Antony
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Aruni Suchir Areti
Talha Salam Arif
Alexus Diamante Arizola
Ryan Christopher Vincent Armijo
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Alyssa Esmeralda Balandran
Ashwini Venkata Bandi
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Alec Dylan Bates-Artinian
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Finn Michael Bjerknes
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Cooper Oliver Bouton
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Shuyue Cai
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Emilia I. Chavez
Brayden O'Connor Chavis
Isaac D. Che
Angie Xi Chen
Annie Chen
Cynthia Y. Chen
Li-Fan Chen
Tianle Chen
William J. Chen
Yingfan Chen
Yiying Chen
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Hai-Yen Chien
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Hannah E. Cho
Seung Hee Choa
Esther Choi
Dylan Jake Chorley
Keziah Shin-roe Chow
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Varun Cidambi
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Daniel B. Crouse
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Antonio Luis Cruz
Yuxin Dai
Johnny T. Dang
Namita Davey
Isaac Kekoa Claes Davidson
Diana De La Torre Pinedo
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Boyuan Deng
Felix Maximilian Desimoni
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Hasham Dhakwala
Jack Diamond
Alonzo Diaz
Brenda Carolina Diaz
Jiatian Ding
Xiaoyang Ding
Andrea M. Doan
Jacob Rock Doddridge
Jason X. Dong
Joshua Dong
Emma Corinne Donnelly
Jessica Duan
Caleb McClellan Dukes
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Munevver Nur Duran
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Reece Carlton Eberhardt
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Chibueze A. Ejiofor
Alexis G. Ellerbe
Sarah Ahmed Elsaim
Sara Lily Emami
Ryan Barbara Emelle
Nnamdi Ikenna Enechukwu
Joshua Adam Engels
Daniela Ennis
Tatyanna Michelle Epps
Austin Tyler Escamilla
Brittney Espinoza
Franklin Lothar Estein
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Laura Omolara Fagbemi
John M. Fain
Derek Peter Ferraro
Natalie Claire Festa
Benjamin Cameron Firullo
Thomas Reading FitzGerald
Ashley Nicole Fitzpatrick
Ricardo Aranda Flores
Sofia Flores-Rojas
Elizabeth Rose Fontana
Johan Branson Fotso
Kyler Jonathon Foutch
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Johnston Wright French
Lila Breina Frenkel
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John William Fu
Milkessa Kalbessa Gaga
Alexander Joseph Gallegos
Leonardo Galvez
Noor M. Gamal Eldin
Brandon Hansen Gan
Cole Garcia
Cynthia Yvette Garcia
Michelle Garcia-Guevara
Nikhil Gattu
Abigail Lee Geigerman
Benito Geordie

BACHELOR OF ARTS *continued*

Neha Zubair Gheewala
Jiya Ghei
Campbell Stuart Gibson
Trevor Gayle Gillette
Emanuelle Yasmin Givens
Christine Gjoerup
Moses Aaron Glickman
Timothy Ming-Luen Goh
Andrea L. Gomez
Rodrigo Andres Gonzales-Rojas
Briana Egan Gonzalez
German Gonzalez
Laura Karely Gonzalez
Virginia R. Gonzalez
Julian Gonzalez Vega
Eduardo Gonzalez Villarreal
Rocio Gonzalez-Espresati Clement
Rebecca Nicole Gonzalez-Van Wart
Ulises Gracia
Lily Magdalene Gray
Benjamin Walden Greaves
Wiley Spencer Green
Lila McCleer Greiner
Tia Simone Grippo
Yuchen Gu
Mia Dora Guien
Kusha Gupta
Mayurika Gupta
Adam Shai Gurin
Schuyler Adrogué Gustafson
Isabella A. Gutierrez
Ajah Chiann Hale
Byoul Han
Man Ho Han
Katimah Harper
Piper Mackenzie Harris
Anja Lilian Hartge
Mary Frances Haws
Cara Yixin He
Yidong He
Rob William Hendricks
Dan Heo
Janet Elizabeth Hergert
Daniel Joseph Hernandez
Catherine Justine Hettler
Nicholas Dean Hicks
Charlotte Rebecca Hirsch
Alexander Ho
Alexander James Ho
Jae Hyun Hong
Kazi Raqibul Hossain
John Lee Hoyle
Yaning Hu
Camsy Yanru Huang
Elaine Huang
George Ian Huang
Christopher James Hudson
Julian Cameron Hudspeth
Pauline Claire Huff
Chrystal Patrice Hughes
Hal Kent Hughes
Christian Michael John Hulkow
Elaine Sooha Hwang
Sumin Claire Hwang
Ifeanyi Chidera Ibezue
Brandon Montes Islas
Amber Danielle Jackson
Catherine Cheney Jackson
Anumita Jain
Divya Jain
Derek Alexander Jenkins
Adelle Yumeng Jia
Guancong Jia
Surina Krista Jindel
Victoria Alexia Johns
Bradford Collins Johnson
Jake Poothullil Joseph
Christian Gustavo Juarez
Manav Kabra
Anvita Pritam Kandru
Anthony Minsuk Kang
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Steve Ryutaro Kawana
Joshua Wesley Kearney
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Joanne Kim
Min Chae Kim
Minjung Kim
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Abigail Page King
Colin Brian King
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Alissa Y. Kono
Haley Kostyshyn
Grayson Alexander Kotzur
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Emily Kaitlin Kuhn
Varun Naidu Kukunoor
Nina Kumar
Veda Kumar
Allen Joshi Kuncheria
Cassidy Mako Kurita
Min Kyung Kwak
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Alice Kayeon Lee
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Jared Zachary Lee
Jasmine Lee
Serene Lee
So Jeong Lee
Victoria J. Lee
Kathryn Mei Leebron
Zechariah David Lemond
Nicole Ariel Lennon
Alexander Sitong Li
Jian Liang
Mary Olivia Liebig
Teawoo Lim
Ranie Lin
Bailey Elizabeth Litwin
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Edward E. Liu
Megan J. Liu
Tianrui Liu
Vickie Liu
Xinyue Liu
Haley A. Loan
Amanda Shan Lu
Jacob Samuel Lu
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Yunfan Lu
Miguel Luna
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Kristie Lynn
Weisizhe Ma
Surabhi Reddy Madadi
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Jos Kristeo Torres Malig-on
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William Yichong Mao
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Ethan William Marnhout
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Maxwell Wilder Martucci
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Mahima Masih
Hayden Lane Mast
Gina Mathew
Casen Matthews
Emmett Lewis McComiskey
Miles Edward McCord
Nathan Grant McCoslin
Arianna Rose McCurry
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Alonso S. Medina
Nicholas Coen Meisburger
Shreya Nappat Menon
Gabriel Vincent Meriano
Enzo Chavez Mesarick
Ashley Elizabeth Messineo
Shiyu Miao
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Shreyah Mohanselvan
Robert Taylor Molinar
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Nilka Montero
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Richard Miller Morse
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Chikamara Karen Okoroafor
Rapha C. Onyeka
Kenneth Kenechukwu Orji
Noah Elijah Ortega
Adam Michael Oscislawski

BACHELOR OF ARTS *continued*

Juma Otoviano
Krithi Pachipala
Tiffany Claire Padilla
Caleigh Amanda Page
Johann Pally
Karol Wladyslaw Paluch
Juhi Apurva Parikh
Ashley S. Park
Ji Won Park
Yunee Park
Callum Edward Parks
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Ivany V. Patel
Aaron Pathak
Sahil Patnayakuni
Michael Thomas Patton
Tejasvi Paturu
Giovanni Pecchio
Alfonso Pelaez Rovalo
Diego A. Perez
Ivanka L. Perez
Julie Diane Perez
Nery Fabian Perez
Jared Raymond Perkowski
Brandt Andrew Peterson
William F. Phelan
Lia Caroline Pikus
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Divya Popat
Indya K. Porter
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Domonique B. Richardson
Isaiah Richardson
Ryan Austin Rickett
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Aylia S. Rizvi
Soha Asad Rizvi
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Suravi Sarkar
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Daniel Sedano
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Clay Thomas Servin
Aayushi Parthiv Shah
Sohil Hitesh Shah
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Syed Shahmeer Shams
Sanjanaa Shanmugam
Martha Christine Sharkey
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Luke Palmer Shealy
Serena A. Shedore
John Timothy Sheehan
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Lisa Shi
Wenbo Shi
Bereket M. Shiberu
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Arav Singhal
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Victoria Alekseevna Smirnova
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Victor Magic Song
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Anna Irene Spear
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Abbey Marie Stecovich
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Dillon Stewart
Savannah Nicole Stowers
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Chuying Su
Siyang Su
Muzi Sun
Yan Sun
Zhanyi Sun
Faith Elizabeth Sutton
Sarah W. Swackhamer
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Charis Tang
Chia-Cheng Tang
Guandong Tao
Jacob M. Tate
Sharon Nhyira Taylor
Nia Rae Teague
Marcus B. Thompson
Linh Thuy Ton
Parker C. Towns
Alexandra Paige Townsley
Celeste Wang Traub
Olivia Bridget Trotto
Annette June Tsong
Madeleine Elaine Tumbarello
Anney H. Tuo
Lucas Benjamin Tyler
Calista Ijeoma Ukeh
Benedictus Dwiananto Utama
Anthony Michael Valenty
Erin Jane Vance
Christopher Michael Vargas
Rishi Kuppachi Vas
Vallerie M. Vasquez-Torres
Aaron Michael Vaughan
Sameera Vedantam
Alex Eduardo Vela
Nyla Danae Vela
Akshaya Venkatesh
Joshua P. Verne
Mark Anthony Villegas
Grace Lauren Vincent
Kendall Alise Vining
Lourdes Vivas De Lorenzi
Giang Thu Vo
Gavin David Voss
Keshav Nikhil Wagle
Nicholas Sullivan Wagman
Jordyn Ashley Wainscott
Kathryn Rae Wall
Robert Joseph Walsh
Andrew Ziang Wan
Amy Wang
Channing Wang
Claire Wang
Daniel C. Wang
Donglin Wang
Gerald Shi Wang
Haiming Wang
Hanyang Wang
Jennifer Wang
Maggie W. Wang
Xincheng Wang
Yidi Wang
Joshua St Mikals Washington
Emily Brynn Weaver
Abigail Karen Webb
Eric Zachary Webb
Divine Kongolo Webber
Jason Daylon White
Isabel Ference Wiatt
Lauren Widmann
Lillian C. Wieland
Sydne Wiggins
Kierstin Rea Wilkins
Ray Quincy William
Jordyn Williams
Matthew Blaise Willis
Oria Alexandria Wilson-Iguade
Kia Marie Witt
Alexander Scott Worley
Emily Vanesa Wray
Owen Thomas Wright
Bohan Wu
Xiaoxun Wu
Xin Xiang
Alexander W. Xiong
Qianqian Yan
Shucheng Yan
Matey Todorov Yanakiev
Chunxue Yang
Christopher Thomas Yau
David C. Yi
Antoni Ivanov Yotov
Alice Young
Michael James Young
Jacob Bennett Yount
Karen Ziying Yuan
Margaret Kailing Yuan
Victoria Marie Zabarte
Darren Roy Zach
Matthew Paul Zamarripa
Jinjiang Zhang
Junyan Zhang
Xianglin Zhang
Yiguang Franklin Zhang
Christine Y. Zhao
Yanyu Zhong
Ashley L. Zhou
Christina Mei Zhou
Harvey Zhou
Linda W. Zhou
Alina Lingna Zhu

Bachelor of Arts *continued*

Boyu Zhu
Peter W. Zhu
Xin Zong
Ezer Alejandro Zuniga

Bachelor of Science

Adulfo Anaya Amador
Amanda Mae Luna Ashley
Caitlin Elisha Lily Bagnetto
Matthew J. Baik
Junzhe Bao
Matheus Laureano Nunes Barbosa
Harrison Reid Berger
Hachem Kamel Bey
Hannah Rose Boyd
Marta Cano Minarro
Roberto Carcamo
Calvin Michael Carroll
Robert Allan Carter
Daniel Chase Cartwright
Sueda Hafsa Cetinkaya
Katherine Youngjoo Choo
Kennedy Leigh Coleman
Gavin Ghent Combs
Chumeng Di
Sara Lily Emami
Steven Feng
Pearl Felisha Fernandes
Ashley Nicole Fitzpatrick
Elizabeth C. Gaviria
Isaac Houston Goforth
Annelise Leah Goldman
Sumudu Dileka Gunawardana
Kaitlyn Elisabeth Heintzelman
Mark Helman
Maia Racquel Helterbrand
Amanda Nicole Hernandez
Kazi Raqibul Hossain
Haoting Huo
Kevin Huynh
Elaine Sooha Hwang
Lily Ivanov
Rachel Johnson
Antonia Celina Michelle Jordan-Millet
Sachi Khemka
Abigail Page King
Caroline Patricia Koester
Amy Elizabeth Kuriakose
Eduardo Antonio Landin
Sohyun Alexandra Lim
Ainsley Morrighane McDonald-Boyer
Jaanita Subhan Mehrani
Sukul Mittal
Omar Moussa Pasha
Sarah Catherine Mozden
Dru Gabriel Myerscough
Shaan Aurangzeb Nagy
Michael Alexander Nevins
Aaron Cong-Anh Nguyen
Sanjay Naga Pandiri
Aditi Pinakin Patel
Erykah Fiker Bogale Cesaltino Pedro
Yangjiayu Qiu
Jaime Humberto Ramirez
Eduardo Moises Ramos
Lucy Marjorie Revercomb
Caleb Stover Robinson
Alden Robert Sears
Syed Shahmeer Shams
John Timothy Sheehan
John Shin
Sean Robert Smith
Renee Nicole Stephenson
Lillie Megan Stockseth
Nicholas H. Strand
Guandong Tao
Preston Allen Tracy
Anh Quoc Tran
Hallie Olivia Trial
Minhhy Vinh Truong
Stanley Lee-Yuan Tsou
Priyanka Vinaya Velappan
Camila Cara Vinson
Allison Wang
Johnny C. Wang
Joseph Williams
Bohan Wu
Aaron Michael Wyderka
Sally Mingshuang Yan
Patrick Bennett Yee
Vincent G. Young
Jim Lu Zhang
Qinyuan Zheng

Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering

Anshuman Agrawal
Laurel Xi Chen
Neeve Kelly Chen
Lillian G. Didcock
Adeola Aminat Dosunmu
John Michael Elizarraras
Lucas Rafael Esnaola
Rebecca Grace Franklin
Bhavya Gopinath
David B. Ikejiani
Victoria Hui Kong
Alexander James Lammers
Maya Gabrielle Levitan
Shiu-Ru Lin
Aidan Patrick McAnena
Tasneem Mustafa
Bertrand Louis Odinet
Oluwadara E. Okeremi
Nneoma Chidinma Nicole Ome
Magdah Siddig Abdelmoniem Omer
Cole Alexander Ponsi
Abram Zhenyu Qiu
Brandon Robert Ruiz
Vanessa Javiera Salinas
Leonardo David Sanchez Solis
Haruto Sasajima
Oscar Daniel Soto
Kevin Sun
Eric B. Teague
Angelica Lolita Torres
Bonnie Wang
Boyang Zhang

Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering

Patrick O. Aghadiuno
Leslie Karyme Arrazolo
William Thomas Carsten
Nickolas Chen
Zakaria Y. Cherif
Juan De La Garza
Melodi Nur Doganay
Davis Richard Elder
Hugo A. Estrada
Daniel Garcia
Ethan Verghese George
Elizabeth Fuller Groenewold
Alexander Ho
Shannon Rose Jelley
Minjung Kim
Anna M. Kucera
Allen Jinhan Lin
Andres Mazas
Andrew Pardes
David A. Serrato
Isabel Jillain Sjodin
Athanasios Sourlis
Alex Stephenson
Leon Scott Urdahl
Isabelle Louise Williams

Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

Ranferi Avilez Cardenas
Kianna Jade Broadman
Pilar Canavosio
Yunseo Choi
John S. Cook
Cuauhtemoc Diego Cornejo
Madeline Forbes
Matthew Soong Hamrick
Alyssa Caroline Jordan
Cassia L. Lewandowski
Robin Gillian MacDonald
Miguel Angel Martinez Arellano
Amelia Rose Peeples
Matthew Clayton Plaza
Allison Michelle Price
Johnathan Paul Roberts
Alejandro Ismael Rodriguez
Beck Miguel Saunders-Shultz
Neha Singh
Aidan Christopher Weindel

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Chatham Alexander Abate
Abdelrahman Ahmed Abouzeid
Alexander James Artrip
Lucas Banus
Rashi Bose
Tyler Matthew Brient
Luis Clague
Boyuan Deng
Joshua Adam Engels
Shijie Fan
Yuchen Gu
Han Guo
Xin Hao
Spencer August Huston
Lauren Noelle Ivory
Jianan Jiang
Christopher Hyunwoo Lee
Jiayi Li
Yifei Li
Zihan Ling
Tianrui Liu
Yun Lyu
Daniel Alexander Martinez
Nicholas Coen Meisburger
Shaan Aurangzeb Nagy
Grace Youngmi Nichols
Jason James Odell
Prashanth Bantwal Pai
Johann Pally
Raul Ricardo Palomo
Parth Subodh Parulekar
Mantej Singh
Brandon Sean-Paul Stanley
David Enrique Torres Ramos
Dhananjay Singh Vijay Singh
Xincheng Wang
Yidi Wang
Mitchell Robert Ward
Joshua St Mikals Washington
Jason Weng
Wenqing Wu
Alexander W. Xiong
Berk Alp Yakici
William C. Yao
Max Yu
Qixuan Yu
Wen Zhang
Xianglin Zhang

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering

Michael Fredrick Angino
Mahmoud M. Badawi
Artun Bayer
Dustin Allen Belsha
Maurice Andrew Carr
Josue Casco-Rodriguez
Maya Z. Chamberlain
Robert Chen
Justin Ryan Cheung
Chukwunonso Chukwuebuka Chukwurah
Benjamin Liam Collier
Tremayne Julius Currie
Juan Antonio Antonio De Cárcer Serrahima
Kevin Jordan Dix
Samantha Fuentes
Elise Rain Gibney
Nicholas Kent Glaze
German Gonzalez
Theodore Elliott Hoisington
Jie Ji
Kevin R. Lata
Amanda Shan Lu
Tristan Slayde Mansfield
Fredy Jehovany Martinez
Jaanita Subhan Mehrani
Mit Mehta
Tyler Jerome Montague
Amar Eshwar Moturu
Jennifer Penaloza
Antoine Xavier Pierre'Auguste
Samuel A. Ramirez
Daniel Paul Rothfusz
Clara Marie Selbrede
Yufei Shen
Brian S. Shepetofsky
Michael Sprintson
Madeline Ann Stern
Zhanyi Sun
William Henry Tobin
Jakob P. Valdez
Andrew Hsu Xavier
Andrew Hua Yan
Qixuan Yu
Ben Li Zaltsman
Jinjiang Zhang

Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and NanoEngineering

Changxin Dong
Joseph Minh Samara
Selin Lisa Sayiner
Amanda Maria Suarez
Qianqian Yan

Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

Javier Aguirre
Eunice Ida Aissi
Sierra Rae Baker
Sara Janale Barker
Jaeger Bull
Caleb Edward Burgess
Michael J. Cecil
Jiarui Chang
Will Armstrong Coben
John Morris Coleman
Christopher Hugh Conway
Caroline Adair Courbois
Even David Davila
Daniel Andres Dibos Manzur
Kevin Jordan Dix
Marshall Faustino Doty
Zachary Ryan Driscoll
Colin Christopher Edwards
Conner Walter Elder
Sergio Octavio Espinoza Torres
Rebecca Lynn Evans
Scott Johnston Fessler
Austin Alexander Fix
Corbett Stanton Fong
Robert Anderson French
Nathaniel Alaric Frueh
Odnan Galvan
Lucy Fernanda Hernandez
Joshua Grady Holder
Christopher Seong-Hwa Hong
Catherine Teresa Kiela
Jae Hyen Kim
Peilai Li
Jade Alexandra McAdams
Christian Ronald Metoyer
Emiliano Mora
Matthew Alexander Murray
Dittavat Narkcharoen
Athena Gabrielle Odwuor
Misael Ortiz
Ozioma Ozor-Ilo
Juan Carlos Pacheco Garcia
Vincent Solomon Pearce
Andreas Ignacio Piaggio
Tyler Joseph Pitts
Jarrett Thomas Prchal
Megha Reddy
Katherine M. Ribordy
Michael P. Riccardi
Dylan Marcus Rivera
Samuel Cornell Bellotti Robedee
Kimberly Rodriguez Parilli
William Wylie Rutherford
Alan Ferrari Scherman
Juan Francisco Serrano
Jalil K. Spearman
Brendan Michael Suckley
Alisa N. Webb
Matthew Foster Whaley
Spencer Brian Wong
Audrey Yao

Bachelor of Music

Cameron Kim Akioka
Jeannine Anne Bauer
Nicholas Joseph Finley
Tomas Huse Jonsson
Amir Kadamani González
Lucas Eric Lemonholm
Rachel Anne Martin
Kipras Dovas Mazeika
Emily Sakurako Richardson
Lauren Kahye Ross
Angela Ryu
Allison Elena Smith
Shane M. Stewart
Hanyang Wang
Alisha Marie Zamore
Shawn Huixin Zheng

Distinction in Research and Creative Work

Anshuman Agrawal
Bioengineering

Eunice Ida Aissi
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Colton Bradley Alstatt
English

Leslie Karyme Arrazolo
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Junzhe Bao
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Physics and Astronomy

Matheus Laureano Nunes Barbosa
Physics and Astronomy

Artun Bayer
Electrical and Computer Engineering

Alexander William Berlaga
Chemistry

Hannah Rose Boyd
BioSciences

Tyler Matthew Brient
Computer Science

Aliza Rachel Brown
Psychological Sciences

Matthew Ethan Brun
Computational and Applied Mathematics

Robert Allan Carter
Chemistry

Daniel Chase Cartwright
Physics and Astronomy

Josue Casco-Rodriguez
Electrical and Computer Engineering

Hai-Yen Chien
Sociology

Will Armstrong Coben
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Kennedy Leigh Coleman
BioSciences

Annabelle McLaughlin Crowe
Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality

Juan Antonio Antonio De Cárcer Serrahima
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Kevin Jordan Dix
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Melodi Nur Doganay
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Changxin Dong
Materials Science and NanoEngineering

Caleb McClellan Dukes
English

Sara Lily Emami
BioSciences

Daniela Ennis
Architecture

Franklin Lothar Estein
Political Science

Hugo A. Estrada
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Laura Omolara Fagbemi
English

Pearl Felisha Fernandes
Chemistry

Scott Johnston Fessler
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Natalie Claire Festa
Anthropology

Ashley Nicole Fitzpatrick
Anthropology
Environmental Science

Odnan Galvan
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Nikhil Gattu
Kinesiology

Nicholas Kent Glaze
Electrical and Computer Engineering

Annelise Leah Goldman
BioSciences

Eduardo Gonzalez Villarreal
Kinesiology

Sumudu Dileka Gunawardana
Statistics

Ajah Chiann Hale
Sociology

Katimah Harper
English

Anja Lilian Hartge
Environmental Science

Kaitlyn Elisabeth Heintzelman
BioSciences

Maia Racquel Helterbrand
Chemistry

Catherine Justine Hettler
Visual and Dramatic Arts

Charlotte Rebecca Hirsch
Cognitive Sciences

Theodore Elliott Hoisington
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Spencer August Huston
Computer Science

Tomas Huse Jonsson
Shepherd School of Music

Isabel Andrews Karohl
Center for Civic Leadership

Jae Hyen Kim
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Minjung Kim
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Abigail Page King
BioSciences

Victoria Hui Kong
Bioengineering

Grayson Alexander Kotzur
BioSciences

Benjamin Joseph Lamb
Political Science

Eduardo Antonio Landin
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Maya Gabrielle Levitan
Bioengineering

Jiayi Li
Computer Science

Sohyun Alexandra Lim
Chemistry

Kipras Dovas Mazeika
Shepherd School of Music

Jaanita Subhan Mehrani
Physics and Astronomy

Christian Ronald Metoyer
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Dylan Arthur Morgan
Psychological Sciences

Richard Miller Morse
Computational and Applied Mathematics

Omar Moussa Pasha
BioSciences

Corinna A. Murphy
English

Tasneem Mustafa
Bioengineering

Dru Gabriel Myerscough
BioSciences

Jonathan Isaac Najman
Psychological Sciences

Dittavat Narkcharoen
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Aaron Cong-Anh Nguyen
English

Dylan Hai Nguyen
Social Policy Analysis
Sociology
Statistics

Peter Joseph Nikonowicz
Psychological Sciences

Alexandra Louise Nuyda
Sociology

Oluwadara E. Okeremi
Bioengineering

Prashanth Bantwal Pai
Computer Science

Johann Pally
Computer Science

Andreas Ignacio Piaggio
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Jaime Humberto Ramirez
BioSciences

Samuel A. Ramirez
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Phillis Michelle Range
Psychological Sciences

Mason Patrick Reece
Political Science

Lucy Marjorie Revercomb
BioSciences

Emily Sakurako Richardson
Shepherd School of Music

Ishaan Rischie
Kinesiology

Lauren Kahye Ross
Shepherd School of Music

Tomas Francis Russo
Psychological Sciences

Leonardo David Sanchez Solis
Bioengineering

Haruto Sasajima
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Robert Eric Schellenberger
Computational and Applied Mathematics

Krithika Sharada Shamanna
Center for Civic Leadership
Political Science
Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality

John Timothy Sheehan
Earth, Environmental and Planetary Sciences
Modern and Classical Literatures and Cultures

Yufei Shen
Electrical and Computer Engineering

Mantej Singh
Computer Science

Dillon Stewart
Psychological Sciences

Zhanyi Sun
Electrical and Computer Engineering

Sarah W. Swackhamer
English

Angelica Lolita Torres
Bioengineering

Hallie Olivia Trial
Chemistry

Aaron Michael Vaughan
Sociology

Akshaya Venkatesh
BioSciences

Camila Cara Vinson
BioSciences

Keshav Nikhil Wagle
Visual and Dramatic Arts

Bonnie Wang
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Hanyang Wang
Shepherd School of Music

Lillian C. Wieland
Medical Humanities

Spencer Brian Wong
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Bohan Wu
Statistics

Qianqian Yan
Materials Science and NanoEngineering

Sally Mingshuang Yan
Medical Humanities

Qixuan Yu
Electrical and Computer Engineering

Ben Li Zaltsman
Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen

Jim Lu Zhang
BioSciences

Qinyuan Zheng
Physics and Astronomy

Honors, Prizes and Awards to Faculty, Staff and Alumni

Association of Rice Alumni Distinguished Alumni Awards
Susan J. Barnes '70
Julian C. Duncan '99
Barney S. Graham '75
William C. Gruber '75
Sunit S. Patel '85
Benjamin J. Rhodes '00

Association of Rice Alumni Gold Medal
John J. Casbarian '69
Janice Cornell Doty '60
David W. Leebron and Y. Ping Sun

Association of Rice Alumni Meritorious Service Awards
Doyle L. Arnold '70
Kathleen M. Duplessis
Steven W. Lewis
H. Albert Napier Jr.
Umbelina O. Oliveira-Cantú

Award for Excellence in Teaching in the School of Engineering
Don H. Johnson

C.M. and Demaris Hudspeth Endowed Award for Student Life and Clubs
Oi Yee Agnes Ho
Seiichi P.T. Matsuda

Charles W. Duncan Jr. Achievement Award for Outstanding Faculty
Daniel B. Domingues da Silva
Simon Fischer-Baum
Jacob T. Robinson

Elizabeth Gillis Award for Exemplary Service to Rice University
Lisa Birenbaum

Excellence in Academic Advising Award
Ian B. Schimmel
Lesa T. Tran Lu

George R. Brown Awards for Superior Teaching
Adrienne M.S. Correa
James DeNicco
Matthew Elliott
Esther Fernández
Jeffrey D. Hartgerink
W. Caleb McDaniel
Despina Colette Nicolaou
Naoko Ozaki
Carissa Zimmerman

George R. Brown Prize for Excellence in Teaching
Philip Andrew Ernst

Graduate Liberal Studies John Freeman Faculty Teaching Award and Faculty Mentoring Award
Matthias Henze

Graduate Teaching Award for Course Support
Julia Szabo

Graduate Teaching Award for Independent Instruction
Cindy Dawson
Kimberly Virgia Jones

Graduate Teaching Award for Student Support
Lucas Hildebrand Pires da Cunha

Malcolm Gillis Award for Distinction in Undergraduate Teaching in Economics
Nina Vladimirovna Bobkova

Marjorie Corcoran Award
Janet Braam

Mary McIntire Staff Excellence Award
Anne K.T. Santos

Nicolas Salgo Distinguished Teacher Award
Kasey Leigh Yearty

Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor Award
Yizhi J. Tao

Presidential Award for Mentoring
Ashley Leeds
Antonios G. Mikos
Kris Ramesh

Ralph O'Connor Award for Distinction in Research and Teaching in Economics
Yinghua He

Rice University Faculty Award for Excellence in Professional Service and Leadership
Jane Grande-Allen

Rice University Faculty Award for Excellence in Research, Teaching and Service
Lydia E. Kavraki
Eden B. King

Rice University Faculty Award for Excellence in University Service and Leadership
Rebecca Richards-Kortum
Richard J. Stoll

Sarah A. Burnett Teaching Prize in Social Sciences
Özge Gürcanlı
Clark D. Haptonstall

Sarofim Professor for Distinguished Teaching in the Humanities
Claire Fanger

School of Humanities Shining Star Award
Christine G. Medina

School of Social Sciences Dean's Distinguished Research Award - Junior Faculty
Danielle D. King

School of Social Sciences Dean's Distinguished Research Award - Senior Faculty
Elaine Howard Ecklund

Sophia Meyer Farb Prize for Teaching
Margarita M. Castromán Soto

Teaching Award for Excellence in Inquiry-Based Learning
Daniel James Catanese
Daniel B. Domingues da Silva

Teaching Award for Student-Taught Courses
Sahana Prabhu '21

Young Alumni Builders Award
Justin W. Allen '12
Hashim Q. Zaidi '11

Prizes and Awards to Degree Recipients

Ann and Joe Hightower Superior Award in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Minjung Kim

Barbara Field Kennedy Prize in American History
CarrieAnne Simonini DeLoach

Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship
Syed Shahmeer Shams
Jim Lu Zhang

Biosciences Award for Outstanding Leadership
Isabella A. Gutierrez

Biosciences Award for Outstanding Research
Calvin Michael Carroll
Sueda Hafsa Cetinkaya
Annelise Leah Goldman
Abigail Page King
Surabhi Reddy Madadi
Omar Moussa Pasha
Dru Gabriel Myerscough
Aayushi Parthiv Shah
Camila Cara Vinson

BP Prize for Best Research Paper on Energy Economics
Lucas Benjamin Tyler

Byron Pope Award for Outstanding Performance in Master of Energy Economics
Dustin Droll

Capt. Charles Septimus Longcope Award in History
Arang Ha
Miller Shores Wright

Caroline S. and David L. Minter Award for Best Graduating English Major
Laura Omolara Fagbemi

Charles Garside Jr. Prize in History
Nathaniel Dinu Askanase
Kamil Samir Cook
Pauline Claire Huff
Katelyn Autumn Landry
Victoria Kaori Saeki-Serna
Kierstin Rea Wilkins
Victoria Marie Zabarte

Chillman Prize
Andrea L. Gomez
Andrea Rebeca Rubero

Christine Croneis Sayres Memorial Scholarship in Art
Alfonso Pelaez Rovalo
Laura Elizabeth Semro

Christine Croneis Sayres Memorial Scholarship in Art History
Christine Gjoerup
Sumin Claire Hwang

Department of Spanish and Portuguese Cervantes Award for Outstanding Seniors
Leenah Abojaib
Devin Jaxsen Amodio
Luke Isaac Cantu
Karina Alexandra Cavazos Gonzalez
Cynthia Yvette Garcia
Rocio Gonzalez-Espresati Clement
Rebecca Nicole Gonzalez-Van Wart
Kazi Raqibul Hossain
Christian Michael John Hulkow
Elizabeth A. LaBue
Mark Collin Lawrence
Phillis Michelle Range
Caroline Gilbreth Segers
Cadfael D. Soulard

Department of Spanish and Portuguese Dr. James A. Castañeda Award for Best Essay in Golden Age Literature
Leenah Abojaib

Department of Spanish and Portuguese María Teresa Leal Honors Thesis Prize
Rocio Gonzalez-Espresati Clement
Christian Michael John Hulkow

Dr. and Mrs. David M. Mumford Endowed Award
Krithi Pachipala
Ishaan Rischie

Dr. Joy Browne Award for Outstanding Senior in Cognitive Sciences
Charlotte Rebecca Hirsch

Dr. Michael A. and Donna Kidwell Gibson Undergraduate Leadership Award in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
William Thomas Carsten

Edward B. Arrants Award
Shreekumar Babasaheb Kale

Excellence in Academic Advising Award to Peer Academic Advisors
Leenah Abojaib
Alyssa Esmeralda Balandran
Justin Ryan Cheung
Diego Enrique Degenhart
Indya K. Porter
Chuying Su
Akshaya Venkatesh
Ben Li Zaltsman
Jim Lu Zhang

Excellence in Art History
Andreea Ioana Calin

Fiona Tolhurst Memorial Award
Shucheng Yan

Frank Lee Berry Jr. Award in Art History
Mia Dora Guien
Shucheng Yan

Fulbright Award
Raychel Bahnick
Isabella Felicitas Bowers
Maya Gabrielle Levitan
Jinjiang Zhang

Gaston Rimlinger Prize
Lucas Benjamin Tyler

Gene Hackerman Award
Daniela Ennis
Weisizhe Ma

George J. Schroepfer Jr. Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research in Biochemistry
Jim Lu Zhang

George J. Schroepfer Jr. Award for Outstanding Ph.D. Thesis in Biochemistry and Cell Biology
Barbara de Freitas Magalhaes

Gilbert L. Hermance Award in Kinesiology — Health Sciences
Meheret Shemeles Adera

Gilbert L. Hermance Award in Kinesiology — Sports Medicine
Eduardo Gonzalez Villarreal

Graham C. Stebbings College Service Award
Marykathryn Snapka Charles
Tatyanna Michelle Epps

Henrietta Wood Memorial Prize
Victoria Marie Zabarte

Henry Adams American Institute of Architects Graduate Medal
Lene-Mari Sollie

Henry Adams American Institute of Architects School Medal
Anna Yen Fritz

Honors in Cognitive Sciences
Charlotte Rebecca Hirsch

Honors in Economics
Moses Aaron Glickman
Ranie Lin
William David Miles
Rachel Christian Moore
Lucas Benjamin Tyler
Matey Todorov Yanakiev

Honors in History
Kamil Samir Cook
Katelyn Autumn Landry
Kinsale Eugene Reilly
Victoria Kaori Saeki-Serna
Benjamin Lev Schachter
Victoria Marie Zabarte

Honors in Political Science
Claire Marie Noel
Lila McCleer Greiner

Honors in Psychological Sciences
Aliza Rachel Brown
Dylan Arthur Morgan
Jonathan Isaac Najman
Peter Joseph Nikonowicz
Phillis Michelle Range
Tomas Francis Russo
Dillon Stewart

Houston Gas Processors Association Annual Scholarship
Minjung Kim
Andrew Pardes

Hugh Scott Cameron Service Award From the Student Association
Camsy Yanru Huang
Jake Poothullil Joseph
Isabel Andrews Karohl

Inprint Marion Barthelme Prize in Creative Writing
Colton Bradley Alstatt

Ira and Patricia Gruber Award for Best Honors Thesis
Katelyn Autumn Landry
Victoria Kaori Saeki-Serna

James Street Fulton Prize for Excellence in Philosophy
Lillian C. Wieland

Jenessa Shapiro Award for Best Undergraduate Thesis
Dillon Stewart

Jennifer and Purvez Captain Award for Outstanding Economics Dissertation
Kirill Evdokimov
Andrea Salvati

Jesse Tsu Sport Management Academic Achievement Award
Hanyang Wang

Jessie Matthews Memorial Award in Studio Art
Catherine Justine Hettler

Jimmy Disch Sport Analytics Award
Caleigh Amanda Page

John L. Margrave Thesis Award in Chemistry
Xun Chen

John P. McGovern Outstanding Premedical Student Award
Aaron Cong-Anh Nguyen

John R. Kelly Graduate Student Teaching Prize in Economics
Ajinkya Sanjeev Keskar

John W. Brelsford Award for Superior Scholarship, Leadership or Service
Aliza Rachel Brown

John W. Gardner Award in Humanities
Timothy Ryan Grieve-Carlson

Kathleen Gamber Ballanfant Award in Film and Photography
Grace Lauren Vincent

Kathleen S. Matthews Teaching and Mentoring Award
Camsy Yanru Huang

Kenneth R. Laughery Award for Best Master's Thesis in Psychology
Elisabeth R. Silver

Kristine Wallace Prize
Janae Y. Bethea
Daniel B. Crouse

Leroy C. Gibbon Award in Geology
Damanveer Singh Grewal

Lindsay Roemmich Sport Management Achievement Award
Jennifer Helen Spell

M.N. Davidson Fellowship
Yidong He

Malcolm Gillis Award in Economics
Joseph Connor Bowering
Cara Yixin He
Matey Todorov Yanakiev

Malcolm Gillis Prize in Mathematical Economic Analysis
Lucas Benjamin Tyler

Master of Energy Economics Award for Scholarly Excellence
Xinyi Kong

Mavis C. Pitman Memorial Prize in Art
Sumin Claire Hwang

Max Freund Prize in German Studies
Alec Dylan Bates-Artinian

Michael Maraldo Sr. Southwest Terrazzo Association Architecture Scholarship
Yiying Chen

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
Amelia Rose Peeples
Allison Michelle Price
Alisa N. Webb

Outstanding Bioengineering Design Project
Anshuman Agrawal
Corbett Stanton Fong
Bhavya Gopinath
Alex James Lammers
Cole Alexander Ponsi
Vanessa Javiera Salinas
Kevin Sun
Angelica Lolita Torres

Outstanding Senior in Bioengineering
Victoria Hui Kong
Alex James Lammers
Maya Gabrielle Levitan
Cole Alexander Ponsi
Angelica Lolita Torres

Patricia and Robert H. Parks Jr. Prize for Excellence in Economics
Sukriti Agarwal

Peter Mieszkowski Prize for Honors Program Research
Ranie Lin
William David Miles

Pi Delta Phi André Bourgeois Award in French
Christine Gjoerup

Raymond Swift Medal in Art
Kinsale Eugene Reilly

RCEL Engineering Leadership Award
Jade Alexandra McAdams

Robert H. Parks Jr. Prize for Excellence in Engineering Leadership
Juan De La Garza Jr.

Ronald Soligo Public Policy Essay Prize
Rachel Christian Moore

Roy and Hazel Zeff Memorial Fellowship
Sofia Flores-Rojas

Saba Prize
Munevver Nur Duran

Sallyport Award
Mason Patrick Reece

Sam Worden Endowed Memorial Fund in Geophysics
John Timothy Sheehan
Neng Xiong

Sherry Matusoff Merfish Award
Caleb McClellan Dukes

PRIZES AND AWARDS TO DEGREE RECIPIENTS, *continued*

Student Association Outstanding Seniors
Meheret Shemeles Adera
Alyssa Esmeralda Balandran
Jacob Rock Doddridge
Madeline Forbes
Lila Breina Frenkel
Nikhil Gattu
Varun Naidu Kukunoor
Nicole Ariel Lennon
Shifa Abdul Rahman
Morgan E. Seay

Susie Smith Vandiver Scholarship
Victoria Kaori Saeki-Serna

Teaching Award for Student-Taught Courses
Leenah Abojaib
Avery Marie Bullock

Texas Society of Professional Engineers Outstanding Senior Engineering Students
Samantha Fuentes
Minjung Kim

Visual and Dramatic Arts Chairman's Choice Award in the Arts
Matthew Blaise Willis

Visual and Dramatic Arts Excellence Award for Film and Photography
Jacob David Simon
Isabel Ference Wiatt

Visual and Dramatic Arts Service Award, Honoring Randall McCabe
Keshav Nikhil Wagle

Wagoner Foreign Study Scholarship
Aruni Suchir Areti
Kamil Samir Cook
Natalie Claire Festa
Annelise Leah Goldman

William C. Howell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research and Scholarship
Celine Dan-Tam Nguyen

William C. Lukes Memorial Award in Photography, Honoring Paul Hester
German Uriel Gonzalez

Honorary Societies

AGLSP National Honor Society

Andrea Renee Bolt
John R. Cheney
Susan Rae Chennisi
William S. Cowan
Cherie Hoepfl
Bette Branch Lehmberg
Barbara Rodriguez Redeker
Robert Row
Troy Thompson

Eta Kappa Nu

Mahmoud M. Badawi
Junzhe Bao
Artun Bayer
Robert Chen
Justin Ryan Cheung
Kevin Jordan Dix
Nicholas Kent Glaze
Jie Ji
Jaanita Subhan Mehrani
Mit Mehta
Amar Eshwar Moturu
Daniel Paul Rothfusz
Clara Marie Selbrede
Yufei Shen
Zhanyi Sun
Qixuan Yu

Phi Beta Kappa

Leenah Abojaib
Sukriti Agarwal
Melissa C. Alter
Abin Antony
Janae Y. Bethea
Joseph Connor Bowering
Isabella Felicitas Bowers
Aliza Rachel Brown
Matthew Ethan Brun
Avery Marie Bullock
Haywood Day Cochrane III
Christopher Hugh Conway
Annabelle McLaughlin Crowe
Kaitlan Danielle Easley
John M. Fain
Pearl Felisha Fernandes
Natalie Claire Festa
Elizabeth Rose Fontana
Annelise Leah Goldman
Virginia R. Gonzalez
Benjamin Walden Greaves
Isabella A. Gutierrez
Matthew Soong Hamrick
Katimah Harper
Cara Yixin He
Charlotte Rebecca Hirsch
Joshua Grady Holder
Pauline Claire Huff
Divya Jain
Anvita Pritam Kandru
Anthony Minsuk Kang
Isabel Andrews Karohl
Catherine Teresa Kiela
Victoria Hui Kong
Russell Yuan Ku
Dhilan Ketan Lahoti
Katelyn Autumn Landry
Mark Collin Lawrence
Helena Moraes Leal
Ranie Lin
Tianrui Liu
Yunfan Lu
Daniel Andres Dibos Manzur
William Yichong Mao
Hayden Lane Mast
Jade Alexandra McAdams
Emmett Lewis McComiskey
Jaanita Subhan Mehrani
Corinna A. Murphy
Dru Gabriel Myerscough
Shaan Aurangzeb Nagy
Sean Lucas Nail
Aaron Cong-Anh Nguyen
Celine Dan-Tam Nguyen
Claire Marie Noel
Ji Won Park
Aaron Pathak
Emily Olsson Plotkin
Peggy Elaine Polydoros
Jarrett Thomas Prchal
Lisa Mary Punnen
Sanchayana Raghuvir
Mason Patrick Reece
Lucy Marjorie Revercomb
Hijun Ryu
Victoria Kaori Saeki-Serna
Alden Robert Sears
Krithika Sharada Shamanna
Syed Shahmeer Shams
Serena A. Shedore
Yufei Shen
Wenbo Shi
Jacob David Simon
Kevin Sun
Sarah W. Swackhamer
Hallie Olivia Trial
Annette June Tsong
Anney H. Tuo
Lucas Benjamin Tyler
Christopher Michael Vargas
Grace Lauren Vincent
Johnny C. Wang
Maggie W. Wang
Xincheng Wang
Lillian C. Wieland
Alexander Scott Worley
Sally Mingshuang Yan
Matey Todorov Yanakiev
Chunxue Yang
Victoria Marie Zabarte
Boyang Zhang
Jim Lu Zhang
Qinyuan Zheng

Pi Delta Phi

Christine Gjoerup
Annelise Leah Goldman

Pi Sigma Alpha

Benjamin Walden Greaves
Lila McCleer Greiner
George Ian Huang
Claire Marie Noel
Kyle Erickson Nuss
Alexander Scott Worley

Tau Sigma Delta

Yuxin Dai
Rylie Davis
Yidong He
Carrie Ziyu Li
Yi Luo
Weisizhe Ma
Cole P. Neuffer
Lene-Mari Sollie
Jared Michael Widner

College Honors

Baker College

Baker College Fellows
Grace Violet Marie Chialiva
Justin Farrell Coleman
Christopher Amsden Cone
Munevver Nur Duran
Rachel Maya Lamb
Magdah Siddig Abdelmon Omer
Rapha C. Onyeka
Indya Porter
Helen Pu
Antoni Ivanov Yotov

Baker College Greg Marshall Award
Rapha C. Onyeka

Baker College Special Award
Indya Porter

Minter Award
Calista Ijeoma Ukeh

Philpott Award
Antoni Ivanov Yotov

Will Rice College

James A. Castañeda Award
Maia Racquel Helterbrand

Sam and Helen Worden Will Rice College Endowed Award
Divya Jain
Jim Lu Zhang

Steven Herce Award
Isabella A. Gutierrez

Hanszen College

Charles D. Pomerening Memorial Sports Award
Jade Alexandra McAdams
Andreas Hunter Weyland

Daniel Brown Benbow Award
Jacob Rock Doddridge
Anthony Minsuk Kang

Glynda Fitzgerald Cumby Award
Makayla Joslyn Franco
Jarrett Thomas Prchal

Hanszen College Fellows
Jacob Rock Doddridge
Lauren Noelle Ivory
Anthony Minsuk Kang
Lucas Eric Lemonholm
Amanda Eve Lopatin
Mason Patrick Reece
Daniel Paul Rothfusz
Syed Shahmeer Shams

Hanszen College Senior Service Award
Amanda Mae Luna Ashley
Makayla Joslyn Franco
Jarrett Thomas Prchal
Daniel Paul Rothfusz
Morgan E. Seay

Hanszen Heart Award
Astra Silver Wednesda Burke
Lauren Noelle Ivory
Amber Elizabeth Pitre
Isabelle Margaret Scott

Hanszen President's Award
Jarrett Thomas Prchal
Mason Patrick Reece

Hanszen Rice Service Award
Anthony Quy Nguyen
Soha Asad Rizvi

Judge Woodrow Seals Community Service Award
Mason Patrick Reece

The McAdam Griffin Family Award
Morgan E. Seay

The Morris Family Award
Hope Christina Moustakakis

Wiess College

Byrd Award for Social Justice
Jiya Ghei

Daniel M. Caesar Memorial Award
Elise Rain Gibney

Gustin Innovation Award
Minhhy Vinh Truong

Hutchinson Award
Dustin Allen Belsha

Magisters' Award for Special Service
Dustin Allen Belsha
Will Armstrong Coben
Pearl Felisha Fernandes
Bhavya Gopinath
Abigail Page King

Olga Keith Wiess Service Award
Varun Naidu Kukunoor

Wiess College Senior Service Award
Leenah Abojaib
Diego Enrique Degenhart
Jiya Ghei
Elise Rain Gibney
Amy Elizabeth Kuriakose
Serena A. Shedore

Jones College

Captain Jiba Award
Christian Ronald Metoyer
Jennifer Helen Spell

Daniel G. Huffaker Memorial Award
Catherine Cheney Jackson
Gavin David Voss

Extraordinary Dedication to College
Ryan Barbara Emelle

Franz and Frances Brotzen Outstanding Senior Award
Aaron Pathak

Geoffrey S. "Skip" Wise Memorial Award
Victoria J. Lee
Erykah Fiker Bogale Ce Pedro

Graham Stebbings Jones College Service Award
Chuying Su
Kathryn Rae Wall

Jones Ambassador Award
Casen D. Matthews
Ozioma Ozor-Ilo
Krithika Sharada Shamanna

Jones College Academic Fellows
Laurel Xi Chen
Yang Ding
Briana Egan Gonzalez
Ziyana Samanani
Kathryn Rae Wall

Jones Forever Award
Tasneem Mustafa

Magisters' and President's Award
Isaac D. Che
Andrea M. Doan
Ziyana Samanani

Sarah Betz Memorial Award
Namita Davey

Shelley Pennington Award
Ishaan Rischie

Brown College

Brown College Society of Academic Fellows
Abin Antony
Leslie Karyme Arrazolo
Sueda Hafsa Cetinkaya
Justin Ryan Cheung
Anvita Pritam Kandru
Claire Marie Noel
Prashanth Bantwal Pai
Amelia Rose Peeples
Christian Matthew Steinhofer

Donald R. Baker Senior Scholarship
Claire Marie Noel

Emma Hutchinson Award
Anvita Pritam Kandru

Franz and Frances Brotzen Award
Claire Marie Noel

Jackie Schnell Award
Kyle Erickson Nuss

Mark Gargiulo Award
Sara Lily Emami

Meg Perkins Sports Award
Hadley Margaret Kruse

Patrick Gordon Award
Shannon Rose Jelley

Paul and Ruth Pfeiffer Award
Leslie Karyme Arrazolo
Matthew Clayton Plaza
Christian Matthew Steinhofer

Sean Kannengiser Award for Altruism
Leslie Karyme Arrazolo

Senior Service Award
Kennedy Leigh Coleman

Lovett College

Edgar Odell Lovett Service Award
Bryan Omar Sanchez

Eric Heineman Open Door Award
Theodore Elliott Hoisington

Lovett College Outstanding Senior Awards
Oland James Osaje Carter
Theodore Elliott Hoisington
Jake Poothullil Joseph
Mary Olivia Liebig
Melissa Nshuti Rusagara
Bryan Omar Sanchez
Selin Lisa Sayiner
Aayushi Parthiv Shah
Spencer Brian Wong
Ben Li Zaltsman

Molly Slattery and Laura Sponaugle Champion of Diversity Award
Marykathryn Snapka Charles

The Toni Paine Award
Aayushi Parthiv Shah

Sid Richardson College

Athenian Award
Tyler Matthew Brient
Sophie Benton Call
Nnamdi Ikenna Enechukwu
Johnston Wright French
Gina Mathew
Sarah Catherine Mozden
Sean Robert Smith
Jacob M. Tate
Priyanka Vinaya Velappan
Isabel Ference Wiatt

Joan Whitney Award
Valencia S. Shuler

Odysseus Award
Dylan Jake Chorley
Hasham Dhakwala

Sid Richardson College Fellows
Curtis William Brownell
Hasham Dhakwala
Charlotte Rebecca Hirsch
William Yichong Mao
Amar Eshwar Moturu
Sarah Catherine Mozden
Valencia S. Shuler
Gerald Shi Wang
Alice Young

Sid Richardson College Magisters' Award for Outstanding Achievement
Johnston Wright French
Sarah Catherine Mozden

Sid Richardson Honor Athletes
Jack Diamond
Nnamdi Ikenna Enechukwu
Erna Gunnarsdóttir

Martel College

Distinguished Seniors
Kianna Jade Broadman
Johnny T. Dang
Ashley Nicole Fitzpatrick
Andres Enrique Mazas
Megha Reddy
Kayt Ribordy

The George Miner Rice University Service Award
Christopher Thomas Yau

Maria Byrne Award
John Michael Elizarraras

Marian Fox Martel Scholar Award
Milkessa Kalbessa Gaga
Shaan Aurangzeb Nagy

Martel Mentors
Mahmoud M. Badawi
Karina Alexandra Cavazos Gonzalez
Hai-Yen Chien
Caroline Adair Courbois
John Michael Elizarraras
Ashley Nicole Fitzpatrick
Minjung Kim
Shaan Aurangzeb Nagy
Jason James Odell
Kayt Ribordy
Clara Christopher Richardson
Anney H. Tuo
Vallerie M. Vasquez-Torres
Amy Wang

Ralph S. O'Connor Outstanding Senior Award
Christopher Thomas Yau

Social Change and Inclusion Award
Kendall Alise Vining

The Speros P. Martel Outstanding Service Award
Brenda Carolina Diaz

Unsung Hero Award
Amanda Maria Suarez

McMurtry College

Burt and Deedee McMurtry Service Award
Rachel Christian Moore

McMurtry Fellows
Chatham Alexander Abate
Junzhe Bao
Hannah Rose Boyd
Callie Frances Carnahan
Krishna Chandra
Natalie Claire Festa
Anja Lilian Hartge
Catherine Justine Hettler
Joshua Grady Holder
Megan J. Liu
Hayden Lane Mast
Nicholas Coen Meisburger
Dru Gabriel Myerscough
Dylan Hai Nguyen
Shaquille Wyan Tankiko Que
Caleb Stover Robinson
John Shin
Aaron Michael Vaughan
Akshaya Venkatesh
Karen Ziying Yuan

Outstanding Senior
Chatham Alexander Abate

Duncan College

Charles W. Duncan Initiative Award
Matthew Soong Hamrick

Duncan College Academic Fellows
Neeve Kelly Chen
Katherine Youngjoo Choo
John William Fu
Vickie Liu
Aaron Cong-Anh Nguyen
Celine Dan-Tam Nguyen
Sanjay Naga Pandiri
James Martin Sanders
Mantej Singh
Tiffany Marie Sloan
Jennifer Wang
Eric Zachary Webb

Duncan Senior Award
Lila Breina Frenkel
James Martin Sanders

James A. Ragan Service Award for Duncan College
Bruno A. Moscoso

Jeremy Reiskind Sportsmanship Award
Ashley Rene Roland

Mentor Award
Rodrigo Andres Gonzales-Rojas

The Christian Carr Creative Spirit Award
David B. Ikejiani

The Lachezar Vladimirov Hristov and Clara Katharine Roberts Award
Emma Corinne Donnelly
Eric Zachary Webb

Unsung Hero Award
Zachary Ryan Driscoll

2022 Commencement Marshals

Chief Marshal
Fred Oswald

Doctoral Marshals
Jim Elliott, Head Marshal
Tony Brown
Pedram Hassanzadeh
Anna Rhodes
Elizabeth Roberto

Graduate Marshals
James Weston, Head Marshal
Guha Balakrishnan
Mario Bencomo
Alan Crane
Agustina Fernandez-Moya
Ashok Veeraraghavan

Platform Marshals
Gustavo Grullon, Head Marshal
Damian Blättler
Kevin Crotty
Vicky Yao

Security Marshals
David Johnson, Head Marshal
Alberto Pimpinelli
Helen Toombs
Tracy Volz

Undergraduate Marshals
George Webb, Head Marshal
Kerri Barber
Jamie Catanese
Sergio Chavez
Bryn Dugre
Neal Dugre
Nick Espinosa
Esther Fernandez
Greg Fitch
Cassidy Johnson
Mack Joyner
Chris Mize
Alma Novotny
Geoff Riddle
Ric Stoll
Faten Tayeh
Kasey Leigh Yearty

Association of Rice Alumni

Welcome to the Association of Rice Alumni (ARA), Class of 2022! The ARA was founded in 1919 to continue the relationship between the university and its alumni. One hundred years later, the ARA has more than 60,000 members worldwide. There are no membership dues to join; as a Rice graduate, you are immediately part of this global community. Wherever you are in the world, you can stay in touch via Sallyportal. Log in or create an account at sallyportal.org to connect with fellow alumni.

Keep your contact information up to date to receive the latest information from Rice via the Rice Portal. To register, visit riceconnect.rice.edu and click on "login or register" to access your online community account. To view a calendar of all upcoming Rice alumni events and to learn more about Rice alumni groups, visit alumni.rice.edu.

Congratulations again, and welcome to the ARA!

2021–2022 Retirees

Retiring Faculty

Steven Crowell
39 years of service

Keith Hamm
34 years of service

Colleen Lamos
33 years of service

Andrew Meade
32 years of service

Debra Dickinson
30 years of service

Edward Djerejian
28 years of service

Ussama Makdisi
25 years of service

Cecilia Clementi
21 years of service

Elora Shehabuddin
21 years of service

Uwe Steiner
20 years of service

Michael Kohn
17 years of service

Retiring Staff

Penny Anderson
44 years of service

Umbe Cantu
44 years of service

Pamela Jones
44 years of service

Cynthia Booker
42 years of service

Arturo Montez
39 years of service

Lizanne Yeates
38 years of service

Beverly Konzem
37 years of service

David Mosquinski
37 years of service

Kiem-Lieu Thi Le
35 years of service

Philippa Angelides
34 years of service

Robert Estep
32 years of service

Ana Duarte
31 years of service

Heidi Thornton
31 years of service

Ann Bazile
30 years of service

Kim Williams
30 years of service

Julie Browning
29 years of service

Melinda Flannery
29 years of service

Mark Gardner
29 years of service

Ana Ramirez
29 years of service

Lawrence Alemany
27 years of service

Diane Butler
26 years of service

Patricia Roycroft
26 years of service

Ramon Sirias
26 years of service

Sherry Ziegner
26 years of service

Teresa Brooks
25 years of service

Eleazar Gavia
25 years of service

Carolyn Cavanaugh
24 years of service

Amy Shearon
24 years of service

Eleni Barzouka
22 years of service

Ann Rasnick
21 years of service

Lena Sifuentes
21 years of service

Jackie Blyden
20 years of service

Alice Rhoades
20 years of service

Siu Min Yu
20 years of service

Jill Foote
19 years of service

David Hoffman
19 years of service

Janet Covington
18 years of service

Joyce Lloyd
18 years of service

Albert Ball
16 years of service

Gerald Contreras
16 years of service

Judy Jenkins
16 years of service

Rosa Gonzalez
15 years of service

Joe Lipe
15 years of service

Debra Roberts
15 years of service

Rick Schell
15 years of service

Javier Contreras
14 years of service

Librada Garza
14 years of service

Vicki Woods
14 years of service

Otis Carey
13 years of service

Telesforo Diaz
13 years of service

Adan Hernandez
13 years of service

Polly Morrice
13 years of service

Lea Aden Lueck
12 years of service

Cresencio Solis
12 years of service

Walter Dow
11 years of service

In Memoriam

John Cheatham Jr.
58 years of service

Mary Tobin
32 years of service

Ruth Maxwell
16 years of service

Charlita Marrs
14 years of service

Kelley Lash
11 years of service

Min Chen
9 years of service

Hannah Smith
7 years of service

Jefferson Creek
5 years of service

Andrew MacAllister
4 years of service

John Ridley
4 years of service

Ricardo Poveda Calderon
3 years of service

Hugh Davis III
3 years of service

Miah Im
1 year of service

Andy Olin
1 year of service

Notes on Commencement

The Commencement Ceremony

Rice Commencement features two distinct kinds of ceremonial elements: the focus on individual degree recipients as they are named, presented and congratulated and the focus on the communal experiences of graduation through the student procession, speeches and the conferral of degrees.

The first half of each ceremony is marked by speeches. The presidents of the Student Association and the Graduate Student Association, respectively, make brief remarks as a prelude to the university president's speech.

The second half of the ceremony is the formal conferral of degrees earned. The candidates for each degree are presented as a group by the appropriate university official. The provost, assisted by the academic deans, presents all the advanced degree candidates. The dean of undergraduates, assisted by the college magisters, presents the undergraduate degree candidates.

After the conferral of degrees, the assembly sings Rice's alma mater. The evening ceremony will feature a short fireworks display.

The Rice Diploma

Rice diplomas are unusually large, measuring approximately 18 inches by 23 inches. The text is arranged to resemble the general shape of an urn. Tradition holds that the shape is a Grecian urn, since it is known that President Edgar Odell Lovett, an admirer of the classics, designed and composed the diploma. Above the text, the academic seal of Rice University is embossed in gold.

The degree recipients will receive their actual diplomas over the summer.

Academic Procession

The academic procession, an essential part of most Commencement exercises, has its origin in the clerical procession of church history.

The full procession is composed of three groups: the candidates to receive bachelor's degrees, the candidates to receive advanced and professional degrees, and the Rice faculty and administration. The university marshals, distinguished by their blue and gray gowns and soft, Cambridge-style caps, are responsible for directing the participants throughout the ceremony.

Candidates for doctoral degrees lead the procession of students into Rice Stadium. The candidates for advanced degrees follow.

The undergraduate candidates for bachelor's degrees assemble with their residential colleges. Led by the magisters and college presidents, the candidates proceed to Rice Stadium. Students chosen as assistants to the marshals escort each college. Baker, the oldest residential college, leads the undergraduate procession, followed in order by Will Rice, Hanszen, Wiess, Jones and Brown. Lovett leads the remaining colleges followed by Sid Richardson, Martel, McMurtry and Duncan.

A fanfare sounds to signal the start of the procession. The procession is led by the color guard, the chief marshal and the president. The president is followed by the members of the board of trustees and the faculty, in order of academic rank, and within rank, in order of seniority. Accompanying the color guard are a university delegation with representatives of the Faculty Senate, Staff Council, undergraduate Student Association, Graduate Student Association and Association of Rice Alumni. The procession ends when the mace is placed on its stand at the front of the platform.

The ceremony concludes with a recessional march. The assembly will first sing Rice's alma mater. Afterward, the chief marshal raises the mace to signal the start of the march. The degree recipients march out, followed by the faculty, administration and Rice Board of Trustees. The march concludes the Commencement ceremony.

Academic Regalia

The resemblance of academic regalia to the robes of religious orders is no coincidence; the caps, gowns and hoods worn today have their origins in the Middle Ages, when universities were church institutions and both teachers and scholars were clerics.

U.S. colleges and universities adopted their own uniform code of academic dress in 1895. While the code has been modified since, the costume still reflects a rich tradition of Western higher education. If one is familiar with the basic accoutrements and with what shape, color and material can signify, then the academic procession and the commencement exercise will have more meaning.

Three main garments compose the regalia — cap, gown and hood. In addition, a stole is worn by many at Rice to indicate an affiliation with one of Rice's residential colleges.

The caps and gowns worn by graduates of U.S. colleges and universities vary only slightly from school to school, and from these the highest level of academic degree that the wearer has earned can be determined. Undergraduates serving today as ushers and assistants to the marshals are wearing bachelor's gowns of royal blue.

The mortarboard, or Oxford-style cap, is worn by most members of the academic procession. It is usually black. The tassel of the cap may be black, or it may be a color indicating the discipline in which the degree was earned. It may be gold metallic for doctors, governing officials of the university and persons being specially honored during the program.

The gown, too, is usually black, though there are exceptions. Harvard, for example, allows a crimson gown;

Yale, a blue gown; and Princeton, a black gown appointed in orange. The bachelor's gown is the simplest in design and has long, pointed sleeves. The master's gown, which is slightly more elaborate, has oblong sleeves open at the wrist. The doctor's gown is, appropriately, the most elaborate — velvet trim runs down the front and around the neck, and three velvet bars decorate the bell-shaped sleeves. Special blue gowns for Rice doctoral students were introduced at the 1997 Commencement.

The third costume component, the hood, is the most symbolic. The hood's length and the width of its velvet trim indicate the level of the earned degree. The velvet trim indicates, by its color, the academic field in which the degree has been earned.

For undergraduate degrees, a palette of four colors denotes a specific academic field:

Golden yellow — Science and Engineering
White — Humanities and Social Sciences
Pink — Music
Brown — Architecture

For graduate degrees, an expanded palette denotes a specific academic field:

White — Arts, Letters and Humanities
Drab — Commerce, Accountancy and Business
Copper — Economics
Light blue — Education
Orange — Engineering
Brown — Fine Arts and Architecture
Pink — Music
Dark blue — Philosophy
Sage green — Kinesiology
Golden yellow — Science

The hood also identifies the institution at which the wearer took his or her degree. It is worn to expose the colors in its lining. In 1985, most schools adopted a chevron for their hoods. Because of the limited number of colors selected, duplication of designs is common. The Rice hood has a blue lining with a single gray chevron.

Degrees

All Rice degrees have been awarded for work done in course. Rice does not award honorary degrees. The Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Music degrees normally require four years. The Bachelor of Architecture degree requires two years beyond the B.A., including one spent on preceptorship with an architectural firm.

The Master of Arts degree and the Master of Science degree often require two years and the presentation of a thesis, but in some departments students are eligible for a master's degree without submitting a thesis once they have been admitted to candidacy for the Ph.D. Rice awards a number of professional master's degrees that normally require one or two years of concentrated training in a specified field beyond the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree.

The Artist Diploma in Music is awarded at the completion of a two-year course of study beyond the master's degree. The curriculum prepares students for a career focused on performance at the highest levels.

The Diploma in Liberal Studies is awarded at the completion of a two-year course of study beyond the master's degree. The curriculum extends the educational goals of the Master of Liberal Studies program and allows students to deepen their interdisciplinary knowledge and lay the groundwork for contributions to their community in the form of critical publications, community service, doctoral studies or career work.

The Doctor of Philosophy degree is awarded after successful completion of a program of advanced study and scholarly research culminating in a written dissertation. As final evidence of preparation for the degree, the candidate must pass a public oral examination. Normally three or more years are required to complete the graduate study leading to the Ph.D. degree. The equivalent degree in architecture is the Doctor of Architecture. The Doctor of Musical Arts is awarded after completion of a program of advanced study and required performances or original compositions.

Undergraduate Honors

Undergraduate honors, based on the grade point average of academic work done at Rice University, are awarded to degree recipients being conferred the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Music.

Distinction in Research and Creative Work is a university honor bestowed by the faculty in individual departments. The specific requirements vary among departments. Students must apply for the honor, and the application requires a supporting letter from a faculty member.

Approximately 5% of the students graduate with highest honors (summa cum laude), the next 10% graduate with high honors (magna cum laude) and the next 15% graduate with honors (cum laude).

Insignia of the Graduate Student Association and Residential Colleges

Each residential college has its own emblem, which is displayed on its banner and carried in the procession. The Graduate Student Association banner, displaying its shield, precedes the doctoral, master's and special bachelor's degree candidates.

Graduate Student Association

The shield of the Graduate Student Association features eight lozenges representing the university's eight schools that offer graduate programs. The grackle is the mascot of the association, and the two grackles in the emblem represent students in the two types of advanced degree programs at Rice — professional and research.

Baker College

Magisters, Luis Duno-Gottberg and Angela Duno

Members wear red stoles with the college crest. In addition, silver piping adorns the stoles worn by the magisters, faculty associates and winners of the Baker College Service Awards (Baker Fellows).

Will Rice College

Magisters, Matthew and Rebekah Bennett

Members and faculty associates wear rust stoles with a white border that bear the college crest. A gold border is on the stoles worn by the magisters, the Will Rice Fellows and award winners.

Hanszen College

Magisters, Fabiola López-Durán and Carlos Martinez-Rivera

Members, magisters and faculty associates wear black and smoke blue stoles displaying the college crest. Hanszen Mentors also wear blue and yellow honor cords.

Wiess College

Magisters, Flavio Cunha and Fabiana Alves dos Santos

Members, magisters and faculty associates wear gold stoles displaying the college crest.

Jones College

Magisters, Jason Hafner and Jennifer Trotter

Members and faculty wear green stoles with a blue border displaying the college crest. Jones Fellows wear a purple cord.

Brown College

Magisters, B.J. and Shirley Fregly

Members and faculty associates wear yellow stoles displaying the college crest. A maroon border is on the stoles worn by current and past magisters. Brown Fellows wear a burgundy cord.

Lovett College

Magisters, Mike Gustin and Denise Klein

Members, magisters and faculty associates wear blue stoles displaying the college crest. A cream border is on the stoles worn by the Lovett Fellows. A gold border is on the stoles worn by the Lovett magisters.

Sid Richardson College

Magisters, Michel and Melanie Achard

Members, magisters and faculty associates wear white stoles displaying the college crest. Two gold stars appear on the left side of the stoles worn by Sid Richardson Fellows.

Martel College

Magisters, Daniel Domingues da Silva and Livia Borges Domingues

Members wear a light blue stole displaying the college crest. Magisters, resident associates, distinguished graduates and honored members wear light blue stoles and dark red cords. Martel Mentors wear light blue cords.

McMurtry College

Magisters, Jenifer Bratter and Noe Perez

Members, magisters and faculty residential associates wear a purple stole displaying the college crest. A silver border adorns the McMurtry Fellows' stoles.

Duncan College

Magisters, Eden King and Winston Liaw

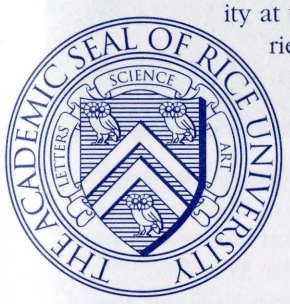
Members wear a forest green stole embroidered with the college name and crest. Magisters, Duncan Fellows, resident fellows, and faculty and resident associates wear a gold honor cord.

Notes on Commencement

Academic Insignia

The original university shield was designed by the artist Pierre de Chaignon la Rose of Cambridge, Massachusetts, for the opening of the Rice Institute in 1912. To create the design, la Rose combined the main elements of the coats of arms of several prominent families named Rice or Houston. The elements featured within the shield are a double chevron and three owls of Athena, symbols of wisdom, selected as charges. The form of the owls was taken from a Greek coin dating from the fifth century B.C. The Rice shield can be seen on the cornerstone of Lovett Hall and on the flag of the university, along with the shield of the state of Texas.

Because Rice University was dedicated by its founder to the advancement of "letters, science and art," these words were incorporated into the design of Rice's academic seal. The seal is prominently displayed on the emblem of authority at the ceremony, the university mace. Carried by the chief marshal, the meter-long mace has a walnut staff with a golden owl atop it. Engraved on four sides of the cube on which the owl sits are the initials WRU, for William Rice University, and the academic seal.



A Brief History of Rice

On Oct. 12, 1912, representatives of the world's leading universities paraded down a dusty road to attend an academic festival celebrating the inauguration of the William Marsh Rice Institute for the advancement of "letters, science and art." The facilities were modest — only five buildings — but the dream was bold. The Rice Institute was not to be merely a regional technical school, but a university of world-class stature.

William Marsh Rice, founder of Rice University, was born March 14, 1816. In 1839, he left his native Springfield, Massachusetts, and moved to Houston, three years after its founding, in search of his fortune. In a span of 30 years, he expanded a small merchandising business into a trading empire.

Rice married twice, but he survived his spouses and remained childless. In his later years, he chartered the Rice Institute, a university "of the first class" to be located in the city that had provided his start in business. He selected the first board of trustees headed by one of his attorneys, Capt. James Addison Baker, but work on the new institute was to begin only after Rice's death.

His death came unexpectedly, Sept. 23, 1900. Even more unexpected was the subsequent appearance of an alternate will that named lawyer Albert T. Patrick beneficiary of the majority of Rice's fortune. Capt. Baker, suspicious of the circumstances of Rice's death and of the alternate will, launched an investigation that culminated in an admission by Rice's valet, Charles Jones, that he murdered Rice as part of Patrick's plot to gain control of Rice's estate. Jones earned immunity from prosecution by providing state's evidence, while Patrick was convicted of murder and sent to prison.

Capt. Baker's quick action helped clear the way for the institute to fulfill its charter's mandate, and the trustees set about finding the right person to bring Rice's wish to fruition. In 1907, acting on the recommendation of Woodrow Wilson, then president of Princeton University, the trustees named Princeton astronomer and mathematician Edgar Odell Lovett as the first president of Rice.

Lovett called for the establishment of a university that would place "no upper limit to its educational endeavor." His first initiative was to embark on a worldwide tour of major institutions of higher learning to gather ideas for shaping Rice and to select the original faculty from outstanding universities around the world.

The Rice Institute opened in 1912 with 12 faculty members, and the first-year student body consisted of 48 men and 29 women. At its first Commencement, held in 1916, the institute awarded 27 B.A.s, eight B.S.s and one M.A. It awarded its first Ph.D. in 1918.

In the years since Lovett, many things have changed at Rice. In 1960, the institute was officially renamed Rice University, and today, its serene campus is a sylvan oasis amid the bustle of a city that has grown to be one of the nation's leading business, scientific, medical and cultural centers. The campus is home to approximately 90 buildings and 4,200 trees and shrubs, and the university employs more than 700 full-time faculty members and boasts an enrollment of more than 4,000 undergraduate and 3,400 graduate and professional students.

Though Rice has seen growth in facilities, academic disciplines, student numbers and international stature, the spirit of the university remains true to the vision first articulated by Lovett. Rice is dedicated to undergraduate teaching and graduate studies, research and professional training. It is characterized by its small size, gifted student body, distinguished faculty and acclaimed research.

In October 2012, Rice University celebrated the centennial of its opening. The celebration, which lasted four days, included academic seminars, a series of lectures by distinguished leaders, a keynote address by President David W. Leebron, and an outdoor multimedia spectacle projected directly onto the sides of Lovett Hall, Herzstein Hall and Sewall Hall.

The highly regarded traditions of Rice — from the Honor System, adopted by student vote in 1916, through the residential college system, inaugurated in 1957, to the academic dedication of the most newly admitted student at Rice — all add up to a university "of the first class." The reputation of Rice and of its 60,000-plus living alumni continues to grow through the 11th decade since the university's opening.

Commencement at Rice

Rice Institute's first graduation exercises were held Sunday and Monday, June 11 and 12, 1916. The baccalaureate on Sunday included a sermon and the singing of Latin and English hymns. At Commencement on Monday, Rice awarded its first Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees. Dr. David Starr Jordan, chancellor emeritus of Stanford University, addressed the 36 candidates for degrees and their families on the subject "Is War Eternal?" That same June, President Woodrow Wilson, longtime friend and former Princeton colleague of Lovett, was working for a negotiated settlement to hostilities in Europe. Ten months later, the United States officially entered World War I.

Since that first graduation, the ceremonies have been held, at different times, in the Academic Quadrangle, in the courtyard of the chemistry laboratories, in the Rice gymnasium, and in local high schools and churches. In 1960, Commencement was moved to the front of Lovett Hall. Baccalaureate and Commencement were combined for the first time in 1972 by President Norman Hackerman. In 1986, President George Rupp returned the ceremony to a morning event in the Academic Quadrangle, site of the first Commencement.

In 2014, President Leebron reorganized Commencement. Growth in the number of degree recipients was making the single unified Saturday ceremony untenably long. The new model for Commencement has each student presented at a Friday ceremony — retaining the Rice tradition of presenting and congratulating each student as an individual — followed by the conferral of degrees in a plenary ceremony Saturday morning. This new model harkens back to earlier days in the Rice Institute when all students attended two ceremonies: a baccalaureate ceremony and a Commencement ceremony.

Lovett deeply loved the graduation ceremonies and guided them with great personal attention. His appreciation of the classics and his pride in the fact that Rice degrees were individually earned and diplomas individually conferred always were reflected in his remarks to Rice graduates.

Adjustments to Commencement were made on occasions during both World Wars. In 1917, a special graduation exercise was held at Camp Fuston, near San Antonio, for the 11 graduates who had volunteered for military service and were then in training. Later, the 31st Commencement, in June 1945, was followed by the 32nd in March 1946 and the 33rd in June 1946.

Owing to the sacrifices that we as a nation were asked to make during World War II, many Rice alumni were forced to forego graduation ceremonies at Rice. In honor of these individuals, the 1998 Commencement featured the presentation of a special certificate to war-era graduates who received their degrees in absentia.

Speaker, Sonia Nazario

Sonia Nazario is an award-winning journalist whose stories have tackled some of this country's most intractable problems — hunger, drug addiction, immigration — and have won some of the most prestigious journalism and book awards.

She is best known for "Enrique's Journey," her story of a Honduran boy's struggle to find his mother in the U.S. Published as a series in the Los Angeles Times, "Enrique's Journey" won the Pulitzer Prize for feature writing in 2003. It was turned into a book by Random House and became a national bestseller.

Her recent humanitarian efforts to get lawyers for unaccompanied migrant children led to her selection as the 2015 Don and Arvonne Fraser Human Rights Award recipient by the Advocates for Human Rights. She also was named a 2015 Champion for Children by First Focus and a 2015 Golden Door Award winner by HIAS Pennsylvania. In 2016, the American Immigration Council gave her the American Heritage Award. Also in 2016, the Houston Peace & Justice Center honored her with their National Peacemaker Award.

Nazario, who grew up in Kansas and in Argentina, has written extensively from Latin America and about Latinos in the United States. In 2020, Parade magazine named her as one of the 52 most influential Latin American women in history. She has also been named among the most influential Latinos by Hispanic Business magazine and a "trendsetter" by Hispanic magazine. In 2012, Columbia Journalism Review named Nazario among "40 women who changed the media business in the past 40." In 2018, she was given the Spirit of HOPE (Hispanas Organized for Political Equality) Award.

She is a graduate of Williams College and has a master's degree in Latin American studies from the University of California, Berkeley. She has honorary doctorates from Mount St. Mary's College and Whittier College. She began her career at The Wall Street Journal and later joined the Los Angeles Times. She is now at work on her second book.

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Guest Information

Directions

Ushers in blue robes are available to provide directions to the locations of restrooms, drinking water and first aid.

During the Ceremony

Guests are requested to turn off cellphones and to refrain from smoking during the Commencement ceremony. Rice is a tobacco-free campus, and we ask that you do not use tobacco products outside the 12 designated tobacco-use areas. The approved locations are marked with a sign that reads "Designated Tobacco-Use Area." The tobacco-use area nearest to Rice Stadium is located in the grassy area of Tailgate Owley on the east side of the stadium. To make this a safe and enjoyable experience for all, we ask guests not to cross ropes or block the view of others. Please follow the directions of the marshals and ushers.

Photography and Videography

A still photograph of each degree recipient will be made by a professional photographer working on the platform. Complimentary cap and gown portraits also will be available in the Rice Memorial Center lobby immediately after the Saturday morning ceremony until 12:30 p.m. Photographs will be offered for sale by the vendors, who will contact all graduates directly at their permanent addresses on file with the registrar within a few weeks following Commencement.

Each ceremony will also be professionally video recorded. These recordings will be available the week following Commencement on Rice's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/riceuniversity.

Family members and other guests are asked not to leave their seats to take photos during the ceremony. Photos of the platform and Jumbotron are permitted from the guest seating area only.

Restrooms, Water, First Aid

As noted on the map, restrooms are open on the concourses of Rice Stadium. Drinking water is available on the concourses. Please contact an usher if you are in need of medical attention. First aid triage is located on the east concourse, near section 115.

Shuttle Bus

The campus Inner Loop route will run from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 7.

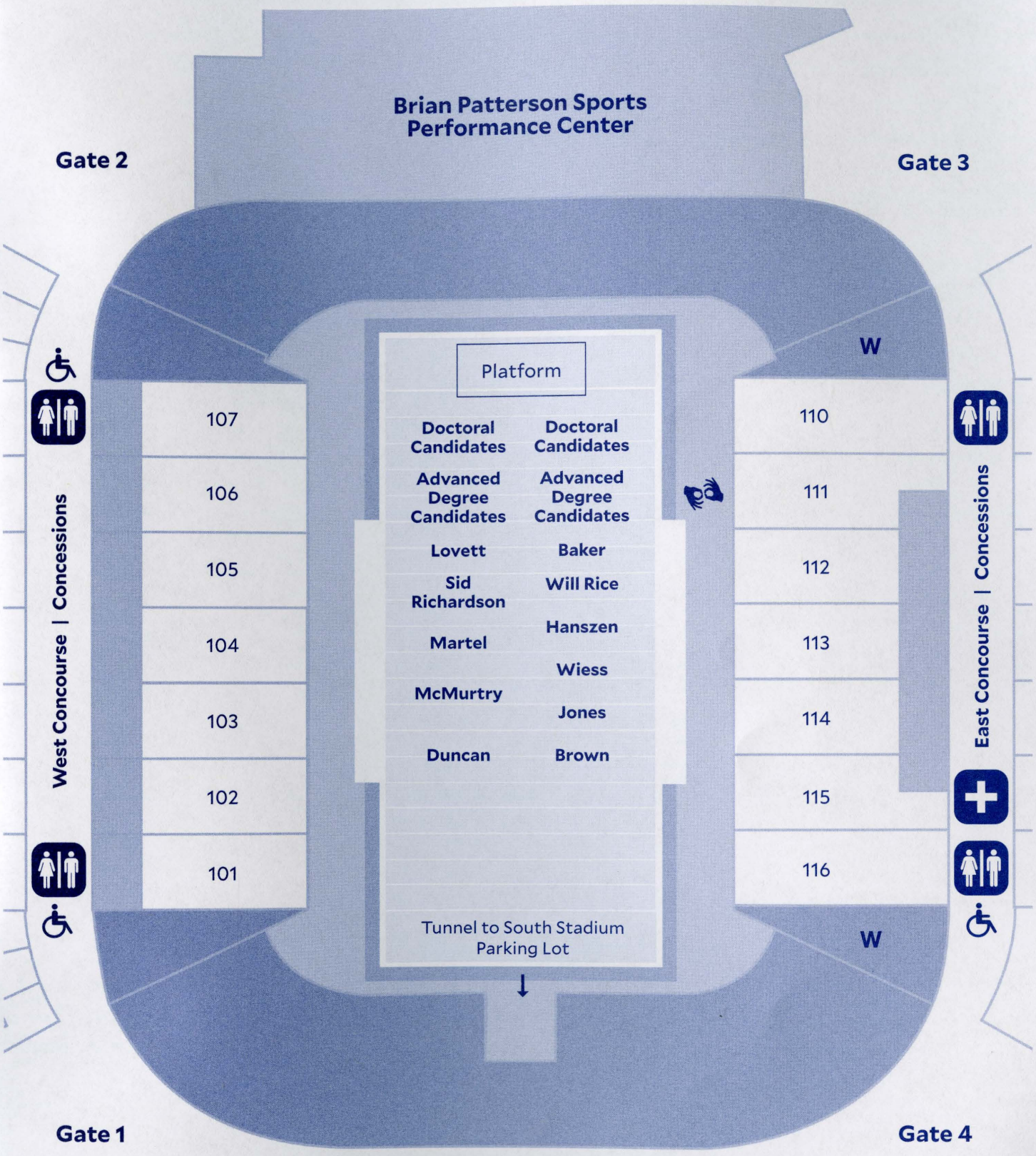
Special Needs

Wheelchairs and seating for those with mobility issues — Special sections in the stadium are reserved for wheelchair users as well as those with mobility issues. Because of limited space in these sections, only one additional person will be able to join the guest requiring the special seating.

Hard of Hearing — A portion of section 111 near Rice Stadium Entrance 3 is reserved for those who need a direct view of the American Sign Language interpreter. A limited number of assistive listening devices are available on a first-come, first-served basis near Rice Stadium Entrance 3, beginning one hour before each ceremony.

After the Ceremony

Graduating students will march out of the stadium in front of the Brian Patterson Sports Performance Center. Students will exit to the parking lot near Rice Stadium Entrance 3. To expedite the student and faculty recessional, guests are requested to please exit the stadium via the south gates (Gate 1 and Gate 4).

Guests are invited to visit the Rice University Campus Store in the Rice Memorial Center between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday. Visitors are encouraged to tour the campus and enjoy Rice's architectural highlights.

Rice Stadium Map